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SIXTEEN PAGES — ONE RIYAL

Japanese Mideast policies defined

TOKYO, April 4 (AFP) — The Japanese government in a 25-page booklet published Friday spelled out its policy toward the Palestinian problem, affirming that the Palestinian Liberation Organization is the legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

It, however, threw full support behind the U.N. resolutions securing the existence of Israel. Foreign ministry officials said the booklet, entitled "Japan and the Palestine Question" is aimed at clearing up misunderstandings about Japan's Middle East policy and dispelling criticisms that Japan's attitude toward the question is inconsistent.

Ambassadors from Arab countries were called to the foreign ministry earlier in the day to be briefed on the document, a copy of which also was sent to the Tokyo office of the PLO, they said.

The publication said that Japan's position was based on the conviction that the Palestinian question was at the heart of the Middle East problem and that carrying out the United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 should be a pre-condition for peace.

Sadat vows self-rule for Gaza Strip

TEL AVIV, April 4 (AP) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, in an interview published Friday, said he was ready to impose autonomy on the occupied Gaza Strip "to put an end to the suffering under Israeli conquest."

In an interview with the afternoon daily *Yahid Aharonot*, Sadat said he would present "specific alternatives" to President Jimmy Carter next week to break the deadlock in the autonomy negotiations. He would not elaborate.

Sadat repeated his assertion that not to complete the autonomy talks by the May 26 deadline would "create a new situation," but refused to discuss specifics. Other Egyptian officials have said talks could continue past that date, which marks one year after the beginning of the negotiations.

The Egyptian leader has previously suggested implementing autonomy first in Gaza, deferring action in the West Bank, where opposition to the plan is strong. But he told the Israeli newspaper he had proposed to Prime Minister Menachem Begin at their Aswan summit that autonomy begin in Jerusalem as well.

"I suggested to Begin that we agree on the principle of autonomy and then implement it first in Gaza and Jerusalem, because Egypt has special possibilities in Gaza and Jerusalem," Sadat said.

Israel agreed to consider the proposal for Gaza, but refuses to include Jerusalem's 100,000 Palestinians in the autonomy scheme. Israel annexed East Jerusalem in 1967 and rejects any suggestions to redive the city, one of the thorniest issues in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Asked about the Palestinians' refusal to join autonomy talks, Sadat said, "I would be very happy to impose full autonomy in Gaza in place of conquest. I would not be embarrassed to impose autonomy, to put an end to the suffering under Israeli conquest."

Sadat said he remained optimistic about the autonomy talks because "I have a sixth sense that says we will succeed." But he added that if the talks fail, "Begin will be responsible before the whole world."

Meanwhile, Egypt struck back at verbal

U.S. firms interested in Israel

Aid offered for jet fighter

TEL AVIV, April 4 (AFP) — Three American aircraft firms are interested in helping Israel build the advanced fighter-bomber that will be named the "Lavie" (Lion), the *Jerusalem Post* reported Friday.

Its military correspondent wrote that McDonnell Douglas Corporation, Northrop and General Dynamics have asked the Israeli Aeronautics Industries (IAI) for details.

McDonnell Douglas President Sandy McDonnell is expected in Israel in three months, the *Post* said.

The newspaper said there was reason to believe that the Carter administration has not only authorized sale of General Electric corporation's F-404 jet engine to power the Lavie, but would not reserve the right to keep Israel from selling the craft to other countries.

Iraq closes DFLP office

BEIRUT, April 4 (R) — The Iraqi government has closed the Baghdad office of a pro-Soviet Palestinian commando group and ordered its staff to leave Iraq within 24 hours, a spokesman for the group said.

The Iraqi move affected the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the most outspokenly pro-Soviet of the eight organizations under the umbrella of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

A DFLP spokesman said the staff of the Baghdad office, about five people arrived here early Friday.

Arab diplomats said the closure of the DFLP office underlined Iraq's steady march

tries, such a right had been reserved when Israel tried to sell the Kfir (Lion Cub), which is also equipped with an American engine.

Activist arrested
In another development, Israel detained a leading Palestinian activist Thursday for questioning, and Israeli rightists mounted pressure on Prime Minister Menachem Begin to refuse to make concessions in summit talks with President Carter this month.

In continuing efforts to quell the wave of unrest in the occupied West Bank, Israeli authorities called Dr. Ahmed Hamzi Natshe to the military police headquarters in Bethlehem after he allegedly made an anti-Israeli speech at a Palestinian rally in the West Bank town of Hebron Wednesday.

to the political right over the past two years, a period which has brought the Baghdad government close to Saudi Arabia.

The spokesman said the Iraqi decision had been taken because of the DFLP's vocal opposition to a Pan-Arab Popular Congress held in Baghdad last month to discuss a "national charter" proposed by President Saddam Hussein last February.

The spokesman said the DFLP and the Iraqi government had also been in conflict over Middle East policy issues, with the DFLP insisting on categorical opposition to American-sponsored moves to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.



PALESTINIAN ISSUE: Zehdi Terzi, PLO representative addresses the Security Council when it opened a new debate on the Palestinian issue. The debate was adjourned Monday without setting a date for the next meeting.

attacks from the Palestine Liberation Organization Thursday as the U.N. Security Council met to break off debate on Palestine till July.

A behind-the-scenes agreement between Western and Third World delegates for adjournment to that time obviated the possibility of a U.S. veto of a resolution calling for a Palestinian state.

Informed diplomats, asking not to be identified, said the agreement was worked out Wednesday and adopted Thursday after the

PLO and its third world and communist allies failed to secure broad support for the proposal, which accordingly was not even introduced.

Egyptian ambassador A. Esmat Abdul Meguid, though he mentioned no names, was clearly replying to the PLO's U.N. observer, Zehdi Labib Terzi, when he told the council Egypt categorically rejects allegations questioning its "commitment to the Palestinians" that he said had been made in the debate, begun Monday.

Klibi in Jeddah for League talks

JEDDAH, April 4 (SPA) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi has arrived in Jeddah from Iraq on the second leg of a tour of Arab countries for talks on Arab and international issues.

Klibi said the aim of his tour was to bring Arab points of view closer together and to consult Arab leaders on matters of interest to the 22-nation Arab League.

In Baghdad Klibi said he also discussed League preparations for an Arab economic summit conference in Jordan later this year, according to the Iraqi News Agency. He will also visit Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain.

On arrival here Thursday, Klibi was received by Sheikh Muhammad Ibrahim Masoud, minister of state, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Thunayan, deputy foreign minister, Sheikh Salem Sunbul, chief of protocol at the foreign office and the Tunisian Ambassador Oasim Boucinah.

The new proposal for an "economic conference" marks the fourth call in a month for an Arab summit but it stands the greatest chance of success, observers said Friday in Amman.

Klibi mentioned the plan in Baghdad Thursday after an official stay in Iraq, without specifying what issues would be on its agenda.

The idea has been in the air since the last Arab summit in Tunis in November, which at Iraq's request mandated Arab economy ministers to map out a joint economic strategy, centered on oil, which would be submitted for approval to kings and heads of state.

Such a summit therefore already has unanimous support.

On the other hand, a proposal by Iraq for a conference of kings and heads of state to examine an inter-Arab charter poses certain difficulties.

Israel's ambassador in Cairo has that 'snubbed, left out' feeling

CAIRO, April 4 (AP) — Israel's first ambassador to an Arab country is feeling snubbed and not being made a fuss of, ignored by the Cairo diplomatic community. Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials say it's because he has isolated himself.

Ambassador Eliahu Ben Elissar arrived here in February, and was given a warm reception by President Anwar Sadat when he presented his credentials Feb. 26.

Whether by accident or design the warmth has since cooled, and reports in the Israeli press say Ben Elissar is feeling it deeply. The ambassador and other embassy officials asked for their views said they were willing to discuss it at a later date.

Mohsen Diwany, head of protocol at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, said there was no deliberate effort to freeze out the Israeli ambassador.

But in mid-March Egyptian diplomats spoke of a policy paper circulated by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali, which directed his staff to maintain normalization at a sluggish pace and cautioned against non-official contacts with the new Israeli embassy.

At the time a foreign ministry spokesman

denied it. But other diplomats said the policy paper linked the quality of normalization to progress on the ten-month-old deadlocked negotiations on Palestinian autonomy.

Whatever the cause the Israeli press cites examples of the boycott of Ben Elissar. A scheduled address by the ambassador to Cairo's Foreign Press Association was suddenly canceled. The reports claimed, because the FPA succumbed to pressure from Egyptian officials to indefinitely postpone the meeting.

But the FPA chairman denied the report, saying it was Ben Elissar himself who begged off five days before the scheduled meeting. FPA members guessed it was because the ambassador would be asked some hard questions about Israeli settlements in occupied territories and their effects on autonomy.

Another indication of the cold shoulder given Ben Elissar is a reception held to introduce the new Cairo bureau chief for *Time* magazine to the diplomatic and journalistic community here. It coincided with Ben Elissar's arrival and many Egyptian guests did not show up, apparently thinking it was a reception held in honor of the new ambassador. Some of the guests-to-be later denied

Minister hails strong dollar

Aba Al-Khail welcomes curbs on U.S. inflation

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, April 4 — Finance Minister Muhammad Aba Al-Khail said here that Saudi Arabia welcomes both President Carter's approach to control inflation and the U.S. dollar's new strength in the world money market.

Speaking at a press conference Wednesday which closed two days of meetings here between U.S. and Saudi officials on joint economic cooperation, Aba Al-Khail said the administration's plans to hold down consumer prices and restrict credit expenditures "will not only help the United States but will have a positive impact on the whole world."

Answering a question on the renewed strength of the U.S. dollar, Aba Al-Khail said Saudi Arabia "is pleased with the stabilization of the U.S. currency."

He also termed the dollar's new strength "very significant for the international monetary fund and an improvement as a whole in the world economic picture."

Also at Wednesday's press conference, both Aba Al-Khail and U.S. Treasury Secretary G. William Miller beaped praise on the joint economic commission and indicated the commission will have a broader role under Saudi Arabia's third five-year plan.



Sheikh Aba Al-Khail

While the Saudi finance minister did not elaborate on what future projects might be undertaken by the joint commission, he did tell the group of primarily American reporters that the emphasis of the third five-year plan will be on "productive sectors and not infrastructure."

Aba Al-Khail also said Saudi Arabia is grateful for the United States' help in an "important stage of our development."

"Future generations of Saudi Arabians will remember the role of the U.S.," he added.

Secretary Miller spoke of a "special relationship" between the two countries and said the joint economic commission is "evidence of this relationship."

In addition to meeting with Treasury officials during his visit here, Aba Al-Khail also met with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and chairman of the Federal Reserve Board Paul Volcker.

Aba Al-Khail did not elaborate on these talks other than to say that the main point discussed were President Carter's anti-inflation drive and the policy of the Federal Reserve Board.

While Aba Al-Khail met with senior U.S. officials, special bilateral working groups held discussions on economic cooperative projects with several U.S. government agencies.

A joint communique issued at the close of the two-day meeting said there will be particular future emphasis in these fields: agriculture and water, desalination, agricultural credit, manpower training and development, science and technology research, highway administration and consumer protection.

The communique also said that two project agreements will be amended later this year.

The scope of the desalination research and training project agreement will be expanded and the statistics and data processing agreement, which was due to expire in August will be extended.

Since the joint commission began operating in 1975, the two countries have signed 19 project agreements and nearly 200 American technical experts work in the Kingdom on these projects.

The next meeting of the joint economic commission will be held during 1981 in Saudi Arabia.

Miller and Aba Al-Khail signed an extension to the original joint commission agreement during Miller's visit to Saudi Arabia last November. The agreement is now due to expire in February 1985.

New Italian cabinet sworn into office

ROME, April 4 (R) — Italy's new cabinet was sworn in Friday giving the country its first majority government in six years and the prospect of a badly-needed period of political stability. The new center-left administration, headed by Prime Minister Francesco Cossiga, is a coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists and Republicans.

It musters a comfortable 60-seat majority in the 620-seat chamber of deputies (lower house). This will give Cossiga a freer hand to tackle Italy's ailing economy and a mounting wave of political violence.

The cabinet, the 39th since the end of World War II, was sworn in by President Sandro Pertini a few hours after Cossiga announced his new cabinet list. Key to the resolution of the two-week government was the decision of the Socialist Party, Italy's third largest political force, to scrap its long-time loose alliance with the second-placed Communist Party.

Arabs, Europeans, Africans

France to ask 3-way talks

PARIS, April 4 (AFP) — France will propose a summit of 80 heads of state and government to draw up a charter for the European-Arab-African "trilogue" envisaged by President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, French sources said here Friday.

The sources, attending a Franco-African conference grouping ministers from 25 nations, said the proposal would be presented at a Franco-African heads of state summit on May 8 and 9 in Nice, southeastern France.

The proposed three-continent summit would take place next year or later.

The general French plan featured in a preliminary report presented to the conference by French presidential adviser Henry Jean-Baptiste.

It covered political, economic and financial, and cultural matters, and disarmament.

The political section would include a condemnation of colonialism and opposition to threats to internationally recognized borders.

The economic and financial section would hear on numerous three-way operations, increase in aid flow and investment, efforts to help landlocked countries, oil research and new forms of energy such as solar energy.

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MOUNTAIN EXPLODES: Black smoke and ash drift skyward as Mount St. Helens erupts Sunday morning sending a mushroom-shaped cloud into the atmosphere. Mount Rainier — Washington's highest — is in the background. Mount St. Helens is about 45 miles northeast of Portland.

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Health, living standards upgraded

Hasa villages improved

HASA, April 4 (SPA) — Hasa Social Development Center improved 140 houses in various villages within a four-month program. Khalifa Al-Naim, director of the center, said Friday.

He said the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs contributed SR255,000 to the project.

The center, which aims at raising the health and living standards of the inhabitants, also organized a contest entitled "Present for the Baby" to help raise the health standards of wives and pregnant ladies, he added.

The first public committee for the project was set up this year in Omran and the ministry had given SR32,000 to help its activities, which consist in drawing up plans and carrying out multiple projects in the area, such as a

girl's workshop and a kindergarten.

Naim said the ministry this year gave the center a total SR780,000 for 45 projects implemented by the center, while the public gave SR2,374,682.

He pointed out that beneficiaries of the center's projects totalled 8,515 from 21 villages around Hasa. The official said that last week a project to encourage agricultural production and train farmers was completed. The Ministry of Agriculture had given SR150,000 for the project.

He indicated that other similar projects and contests were underway such as health projects, cleanliness campaigns, first aid training, literacy courses and women's activities.

Murderer receives death sentence

MECCA, April 4 (SPA) — Convict Saad ibn Saad ibn Moajjal Al-Azemi was executed here Friday for assassinating Mushkhis ibn Duhaian Al-Thalabi, an interior Ministry statement has said.

According to the statement, accused Azemi shot Th'labi into the head killing him instantly. It happened when the victim went to the assassin's house and demanded payment for the animal he had sold to him. Thereupon Azemi shot him dead and took Th'labi's body to a far-off place to hide it.

Security officials, however, unearthed the crime and arrested the culprit. He was taken to the court in Mecca, whose verdict to execute Azemi was endorsed by the Supreme Council of the Judiciary.

Following a royal decree to implement the court's order, criminal Azemi was executed here after the Friday prayer, the statement said, adding that the government desires to eliminate the crime and to punish those who are tempted to disturb the country's security.

Saudia inaugurates Kenya air route

JEDDAH, April 4 (SPA) — Saudia, the Saudi national carrier, Thursday opened new flight to Kenya via Somalia.

The inaugural flight left Jeddah Airport Thursday to Mogadishu and will then proceed to Nairobi.

PRAYER TIMES

Saturday	Fajr	Ishraq	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghreb	Isha
Mecca	4:57	6:15	12:30	3:55	6:39	8:09
Medina	4:45	6:09	12:22	3:59	6:42	8:12
Nejd	3:26	5:45	12:01	3:28	6:11	7:41

WEATHER

The weather will be moderate in most areas. Winds will be northerly to north-westerly and moderate. They may cause occasional sand haze.

Clouds will gather on the southern highlands, and might bring scattered thunders.

Seas will be calm to moderate.

Mecca	34	22	Jeddah	31	22
			Riyadh	33	23
			Dhahran	30	24
			Medina	32	17
			Taif	30	13
			Jizan	24	27
			Hail	25	11
			Turaif	21	09
			Qaisumah	32	19
			Sulayyil	40	25
			Abha	26	11

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Saudi Comment

By Saleh Muhammad Jamal
Al Medina

The persistent absconding of labor does not convince anyone that there is any deterrent measure to make the contractee stick to his commitments. The absconder works as he likes, then returns to the passport office to be deported at the expense of his sponsor as if he has done nothing.

To say some laborers are not justly treated in the matter of wages does not provide good ground for their running away and not being called to account. A sound solution seems to be to consider their complaints at the Labor Office and to do them justice, instead of seizing the employer by the collar and leaving the worker free to do as he likes.

I myself have seen justice being meted out at the Labor Office in Mecca. But, regrettably, most workers resort to absconding at the eruption of the first difference with the employer, without caring to call at the Labor Office. This phenomenon could be checked from spreading if the deserter receives deterrent punishment and other workers are made aware of the

sanction.

If campaigns against the illegal residents also include the absconders from work and the law is applied fully to the deserter and his shelterer, the phenomenon of running away from work could vanish all too soon. The laborers would not buy visas from brokers for thousands of riyals and then work in the Kingdom freely to earn much more than they paid for the visa.

So long as we are importing labor, unmindful of their flight from responsibility and various commitments, we cannot achieve any stability in the wages. Picking a laborer from the street and employing him at double the wages is, therefore, far better than importing one and bearing contract responsibilities for a year at least.

I would, therefore, stress on deterrent punishment for the fugitives. They ought to be relentlessly chased as mere notice in the newspapers will neither prove any fruitful result nor put an end to this phenomenon. It would only gain momentum and encourage others to desert their contracts as long as the results of such an actio are guaranteed in their favor.

BRIEFS

JEDDAH, April 4 (SPA) — Tunisian Interior Minister Idriss Guiga arrived here Friday evening at the head of a delegation of his country on a five-day visit to Saudi Arabia. He was met at the airport by Governor of Mecca Prince Majed, Mecca Police Commander Lt. Geo. Ali Al-Mash'oo'f and other officials. During his visit, Guiga will discuss with his Saudi opposite number Prince Naif cooperation in the field of security.

RIYADH, April 4 (SPA) — Argentina's Minister of Agriculture George Zui Guitar arrives here Saturday on a short visit to Saudi Arabia. He will discuss with Saudi officials cooperation in the field of agriculture and water.

DAMMAM, April 4 (SPA) — Al-Nasr soccer team of Riyadh Friday evening beat Al-Nahda of Dammam 1-0 in the context of the super league. The goal was scored by Darwish Said at the 32nd minute of the second half-time as a penalty.

Eastern Province takes first-class duel

Saudi swim teams compete

JEDDAH, April 4 (SPA) — The Eastern Province Thursday won Obhor Creek sixth long distance swimming championship for first class swimmers.

The junior championship for swimmers under 17 was won by the Western Province and the junior championship under 15 was won by Hasa province.

In the first class championship, Anwar Saleh and Sayed Fakher came first and second respectively. Third came Abdullah Al-Ghamdi from the Central Province and fourth came Tareq Rafie from the Eastern Province.

In the championship for swimmers below 17 years of age, Hattan Taher from the West-

ern Province came first, followed by Am Hashem and Saleh Habib from the Eastern Province — second and third respectively — and Majed Medani from the Western Province.

Meanwhile, in Dammam, Al-Itifaq soccer team beat Ohod of Medina 4-1 Thursday evening in a match of the super league.

Bousorsar of Ohod team placed a goal during the first half. At the second half-time, Al-Itifaq team managed to score four times. Once at the 10th minute by Muftah Ghar then at the 11th minute by Muhammad Mubarak, at the 13th minute by Issa Khalifa and at the 46th minute by Saleh Khalifa.

Education Ministry to hold conference

JEDDAH, April 4 (SPA) — The Fourth conference of comprehensive secondary schools, organized by the Ministry of Education, will begin Saturday. General directors, directors of education in the Kingdom and secondary school education officials of the Ministry of Education will take part in the conference.

The conference will last seven days, and will discuss principles of comprehensive secondary schools and what has been achieved from experiences. The officials will consider the possibility of converting the current secondary schools into comprehensive secondary schools in the whole country.

During a recent ceremony, in which Prince Saud ibn Abdul Mohsen dedicated the new building of the General Education Department of the Western Province, Saud hailed

the role of teachers in producing new generations of learned persons.

He lauded the state for its efforts to give everyone a chance to learn and catch up with progress. He dwelt at length on the giant projects carried out by the Ministry of Education for the purpose.

There are two intermediate teacher training schools in the area for primary education — in Mecca and Taif. A science mathematics center in Taif trains teachers rare subjects. All this is in addition to model industrial institute in Jeddah. Higher Institute for Financial and Commercial Sciences in Jeddah, the Secondary Commercial Schools in Jeddah and Taif, the Secondary Vocational Training School in Taif, the Lighthouse Institute in Mecca, and intellectual education institutes for students of both sexes in Jeddah.

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مكتبة

Saudi telephone streamlining service Billing procedures revamped

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, April 4 — Saudi Telephone announced that it is requesting all telephone subscribers, who have post office boxes, to ensure that the telephone company is aware of their box number to aid in the distribution of quarterly invoices, a company spokesman said Friday.

Pending the development of a civic address system in the Kingdom, Saudi Telephone is pursuing other methods and procedures to ensure the maximum number of subscribers receive their telephone service invoices as promptly as possible, the spokesman added.

Printed on all invoices is the "maturity date" by which invoices must be paid off in order to avoid disconnection of service. The use of post office boxes will mean that subscribers will receive their invoices earlier and have more than adequate time to settle their accounts prior to the "maturity date."

Any Saudi Telephone subscriber, who has the use of a post office box, should inform the nearest Saudi Telephone office of the box number. This information should be passed on as soon as possible so arrangements may be made to use the boxes prior to the next quarter billing.

Saudi Telephone presently is operating a total of about 250,000 working telephone lines, according to statistics released recently. That's virtually double the total of two years ago when the telephone expansion program began, latest reports show.

The monthly rate for installation of working lines is approaching 10,000 — the total for new services in January totalled 9,305. Saudi Telephone's program to engineer and place service wires from network to subscriber's villa walls continues rapidly.

A total of 202,082 buried service wires have been placed since the program began. Performance of repair services remained steady during March, the report indicated. 14.6 troubles per 100 working lines were reported and 76 per cent of the total was cleared within 24 hours; 99 per cent was cleared within seven days.

Performance of exchanges and trunk lines was reported as smooth and efficient. About 99 per cent of all calls to the network received "dial tone" within three seconds. In addition, 96 per cent of all calls were placed successfully by Saudi Telephone's facilities.

At the same time the various trunk operator services are responding to growth in usage of the telephone system. In Riyadh, 70 per cent of all calls to "92" were answered in

less than 10 seconds, the report states.

The daily average number of international calls placed has been about 19,000, with 7,000 placed using international subscriber dialing (ISD). ISD is available to all subscribers with international calling bills of SR500 or more, and to those with business telephones.

In addition to the advances made by Saudi Telephone company, telephone services in the Kingdom have gotten a boost from the placement of emergency solar telephones. More than 300 solar energy emergency telephone booths on Saudi Arabia's highways began operating at the beginning of March.

Rabie Dahlan, director-general of telephones, said that the emergency booths will make it possible for any person in trouble on a highway to obtain police, traffic and fire rescue services within a very short notice.

He also said that the microwave, coaxial, vertical and horizontal cable stations in Jeddah and Taif are now under the control of Jeddah telephones as a kind of technical rapprochement among departments.

Also, one Saudi Arabian project being constructed plans to link the Kingdom with Sudan by means of microwave.

Petromin ensures one million tons Bangladesh gets more crude

JEDDAH, April 4 — Bangladesh recently secured a guaranteed crude entitlement from Petromin involving a million tons during 1980 an increase from the prior agreement under which the Kingdom assured Bangladesh of 600,000 tons, according to a report in Saudi Business magazine.

Bangladesh uses about 1.2 million tons a year, and a guarantee of Saudi crude at lower than prevailing market prices is significant to public and private sector planners.

There are various public and private means of aid that the Kingdom renders, and the most notable assistance is generally that given through the Saudi Fund for Development, a body capitalized at SR10 billion for project help in the underdeveloped world. During 1978/1979, the SFD made \$150 million available to Bangladesh, the report states.

Of that, \$50 million went toward the \$250 million Chittagong Fertilizer Factory. Raw material for the plant will come almost entirely from Bangladesh's Bakhrabad gas



CUP WINNERS: Medina's Ohod club won the Gulf Basketball championship Thursday in Medina. The Saudi Arabian team defeated Kuwait's Qadisiya 91-90. The cup was given to the winners by Prince Abdul Mohsen, governor of Medina, who attended the match.

Printing trade loans reduced Board okays project funding

JEDDAH, April 4 — The Saudi Industrial Development Fund passed judgment on four projects ranging from printing to pharmaceuticals, the Saudi Business magazine reported.

The SIDF decided to stop lending to the printing and publishing industry for new plants or extensions in major business centers as a result of market saturation.

However, the report stated that the Fund's board will consider new projects in regions such as Yanbu or Jubail, where new demand will justify the action. SIDF has lent a total of SR105 million to eleven printing projects, the report states.

The board also agreed to finance three new industrial projects to manufacture kitchen appliances, pharmaceuticals and steel clad insulating panels, as well as a number of cold stores around the country under a special SR200 million cold store fund launched this year.

The board approved a SR34 million loan to a SR68 million pharmaceutical venture, which in early 1982, will begin producing three million 500 milliliter bottles of standard medical solutions a year. The Jeddah factory's output is planned to rise to five million bottles a year and to include up to 15 per cent

of more intricate special solutions after several years, the report said.

The venture is considered strategic because it will allow improved availability of vital supply and services to the Kingdom's hospitals, although it will receive no subsidy other than the standard interest-free industrial loan and five per cent protection tariff. The factory, which has been under consideration for several years, will face the problems of maintaining the Ministry of Health's hygiene standards in Jeddah's dusty atmosphere and competition from imports. But with the production of special solutions, it is expected to be profitable.

A joint venture between the Abdullah Al Aql's Nasr Industrial and Trading Establishment and Merloni Progetti of Italy received loan approval from SIDF for a factory that will manufacture "Ariston" kitchen appliances in Jeddah.

The Saudi Business report said that a joint venture between Juffali Bros. Company and Calvinator is set to begin producing 30,000 refrigerators a year in Jeddah starting in 1981. But the Ariston Factory will manufacture gas cookers, washing machines and deep freezers as well as refrigerators. The SIDF board approved a SR24 million loan for the SR48 million factory. In its first year of production, the factory's owners hope to achieve an output of 37,000 units. In five years, the rate is expected to rise to 90,000 a year.

The board also approved a SR17 million loan for Abdul Rahman Al Howaisa's Hitco for a SR34 million factory to manufacture polyurethane insulated steel clad panels in Jeddah. Production, beginning by late autumn, will rise to 700,000 square meters a year at the standard thickness of 35 millimeters. The high insulating panels' thickness can be varied up to 150 millimeters, which will be required for cold stores.

Because of high shipping costs following the bulk of the light insulating material within the steel surfaces, the factory expects to considerably undercut imported competition in price. With some structural strength, the material can be used for roofing and walls of steel-structure buildings with the advantage of insulation over such rivals as comparably priced corrugated iron.

From page one

Klibi

problems.

In London, meanwhile, the Organization of Islamic Conference announced that the annual Islamic foreign ministers conference due to be held in Islamabad April 16, might be postponed because of the conflict of scheduling with Zimbabwe's independence.

OIC Secretary General Habib Chatty told reporters that a proposal to put off the meeting was under consideration and that a final decision will be made within the next two or three days.

The postponement has been suggested because it assumed that most Islamic foreign ministers will accompany their heads of state to the independence day festivities which begin April 18.

Japanese

condition to a lasting peace in the region.

It also noted that the Japanese government has stated on various occasions that Israel should pull out of the occupied Arab territories, including East Jerusalem and Israel's construction of settlements in the occupied Arab land is unjustified.

Resolution 242, adopted by the U.N. Security Council in 1967 but rejected by the PLO, calls for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab land, the maintenance of the Sovereignty and territory of all states and a fair settlement of the refugee problem. The resolutions and implementation of the provisions and principles of resolution 242.

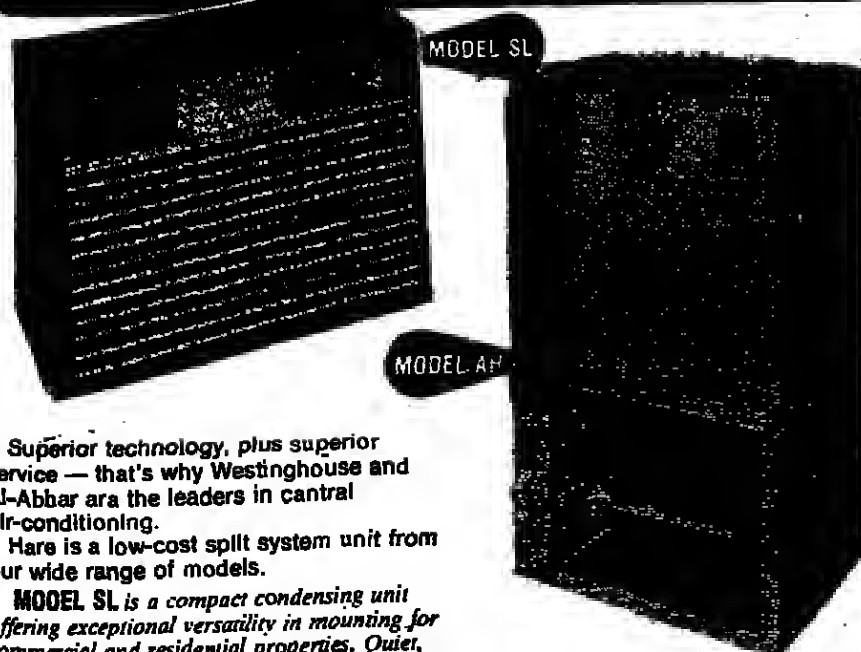
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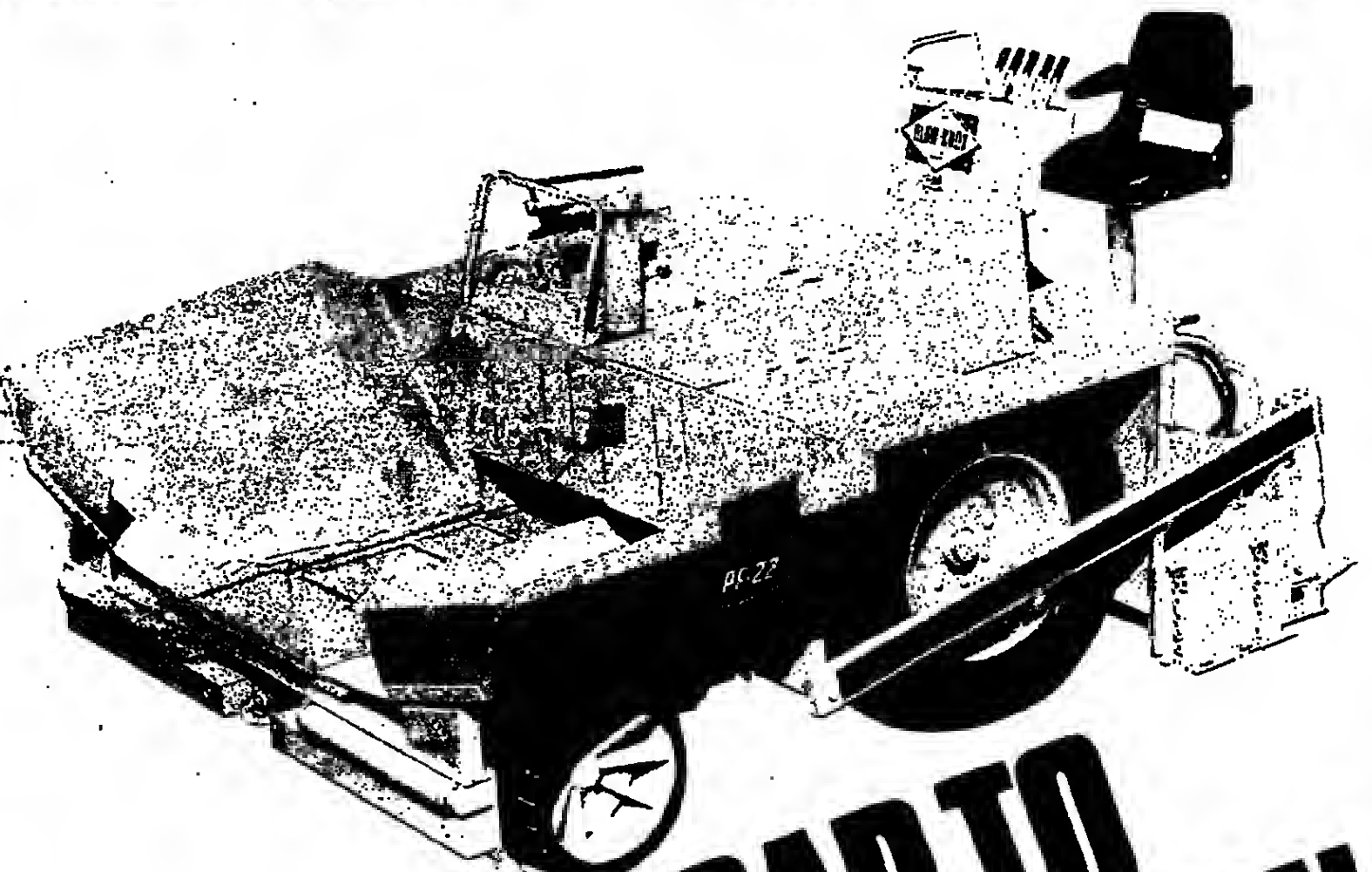
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Iraq vows revenge against Iran

BEIRUT, April 4 (AP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has vowed "thrice" to take revenge from Iran for a grenade attack on one of his closest confidants in Baghdad.

The Iraqi News Agency said he took the oath during a visit Wednesday to Baghdad's Mustansiriyah University where Deputy Premier Tarek Aziz escaped a bomb blast with superficial wounds Tuesday.

Several Iraqi students were wounded in the blast which Iraqi authorities blamed on a student from an Iranian origin identified as Samir Noor Ali.

"I swear thrice that the pure blood spilled here will not go to waste," Hussein said in a speech distributed by the official news agency Thursday.

Hussein's oath of vengeance was seen here as a clear indication of a further deterioration in relations between the two countries.

The use of the word thrice in the pledge reflects a finality in determination to hit back at what Baghdad authorities say was an Iranian campaign against Iraq.

Hussein made no mention of Iran by name. But he left no doubt that the Iranian regime was the target of his wrath.

"This treacherous attack was instigated by cowards trying to avenge Qadisiyah," he said in a reference to a 636 A.D. battle that a small Arab fought and won against Persia.

The Arab victory led to the downfall of the Persian empire and helped stretch the borders of the first Islamic empire to India, Afghanistan and China, according to Arab historic chronicles.

Hussein said Iraq's 13.5 million population would gladly take on their adversaries anew. Iran has about 34 million citizens.

Iraq has been campaigning for a joint



Saddam Hussein

administration with Iran of navigation rights in Shatt el-Arab, an estuary on the common border of the two countries.

The Iraqis gave up their Shatt el-Arab rights in an agreement they concluded with the Shah in 1973 under which the former emperor halted support of Iraq's autonomy-seeking Kurdish minority.

Now that the Iraqi regime has resolved its dispute with the Kurds, the Baghdad government is turning the tables and calling on Iran to meet the autonomy demands of its Kurdish and Arab minorities.

Iraq's official news agency Pars said Wednesday that "Fedayeen Islam" had claimed responsibility for Tuesday's grenade attack in Baghdad.

The agency said an anonymous caller from the group confirmed the name of the assailant as Samir Noor Ali and said he was a Fedayeen Islam member.

The agency quoted the caller as denying the Iraqi claim that Ali was shot and killed on the spot by Iraqi security guards. The caller was quoted as saying Ali escaped after throwing the grenade.

Egypt's population hits 42 m

CAIRO, April 4 (AP) — Egypt's population became 42 million this month, an increase of 1.2 million over last year with a rate of a baby every 26 seconds, a statistics official has announced.

Gamal Askar, head of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, said Thursday the Egyptian population is living on 55,000 square kilometers out of a total of one million square kilometers. "This means that populated areas are limited to 5.5 per cent of the total Egyptian territories," Askar told a press conference carried by the Middle East News Agency.

More than 43 per cent of Egypt's population are less than 15 years old, Askar said.

Egyptians live on cultivated areas along the River Nile Valley. The average Egyptian family consists of six children plus the parents.

He said the population in Cairo rose to 8.7 million, an increase of 222,000 over last year.

Askar warned that if this high rate of population growth was not checked, Egyptians would number 66 million by the year 2000.

Residents flee N'Djamena as food shortage worsens

N'DJAMENA, April 4 (R) — The people of N'Djamena have abandoned the Chad capital to the fighters in a bitter faction war and soon there will not be enough food or water even for them.

Only in the combat zones is there any sign of life. Except for a small area around the great marble Al-Faical Mosque, the streets are silent and empty.

With opposing sides in the civil war apparently determined to fight to the finish, the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) both appealed Thursday for a halt in the civil war.

U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim called the conflict tragic and Edem Kodjo, secretary-general of the OAU urged all sides to stop fighting and negotiate.

The Libyan news agency Jana meanwhile reported that Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi had received a cable from the president of the Congo, Col. Denis Sasson-Nguesso, urging him to use his influence to stop the war.

According to another report from Libya, Chad's President Goukouni Oueddei, who has been losing ground in the battle, has appealed to Qaddafi for help.

Perhaps 100,000 people from N'Djamena have swum, canoed or paddled across the Chari River to the safety of Cameroon since President Goukouni and Defense Minister Hissine Habre began the battle for N'Djamena two weeks ago.

But the experience was nothing new for many of them. Barely a year ago, the city was virtually abandoned during a six-week civil war.

Before the war, the French-built city with its wide, flowery boulevards and colonial whitewashed houses held 600,000 people. At the end possibly no more than 150,000 remained.

Now the exodus is on again and the village of Koussiri, across the river in Cameroon, is suddenly having to cope with the arrival of tens of thousands of Chadians.

The city they are leaving behind has virtually no electricity, food is running out fast and even water for operations on the wounded has to be drained from the swimming pools of the capital's abandoned wealthy homes.

There are two hospitals easing N'Djamena's suffering. Both are run by the French.

Eritreans spurn Mengistu's offer

BEIRUT, April 4 (AP) — The Eritrean Liberation Front rejected Friday an offer of self-rule in the embattled Red Sea province made recently by the Soviet-backed Ethiopian regime of Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam. "We settle for nothing short of self-determination and negotiations without prior conditions," said Ahmad Nasser, head of the

ELF Revolutionary Council at a news conference in Beirut.

Mengistu, whose Soviet-equipped forces tried hard in the last two years to quell the 19-year Eritrean rebellion, offered "a measure of self-rule to be negotiated as a basis for a peaceful settlement."

Lebanon gets U.S. artillery guns

BEIRUT, April 4 (R) — U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean Thursday formally handed over 14 155-H artillery guns to the Lebanese army as part of Washington's military aid.

The guns were handed over at a cere-

mony attended by Lebanese Army Commander Victor Khoury.

The Lebanese army, which disintegrated during the 1975-76 civil war, is being rebuilt by the government. It now has a strength of 23,000 men, according to official figures.

Karmal will send message to Arafat

BEIRUT, April 4 (AP) — Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Muhammad Dosset is expected to visit Beirut next week to deliver a message from Soviet-backed President Bab-

rak Karmal to Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat, the leftist Beirut newspaper *As Safir* reported Friday.

Freak storm leaves 10 dead in Syria

DAMASCUS, April 4 (R) — Ten persons were killed and 12 others injured when a freak storm lashed part of northeast Syria, officials said Thursday.

They said the gale lasted just four minutes and left more than 200 sheep dead Wednesday night near the town of Deir Ez-Zour. Aid was rushed to the stricken area.

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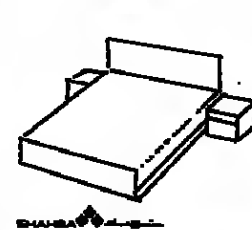
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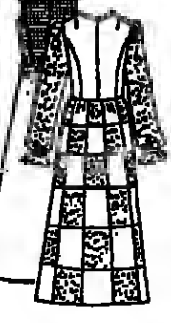
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SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1980

U.S. launches campaign reinforcing boycott call

WASHINGTON, April 4 (R) — The United States government is launching a campaign to reinforce its call for a U.S. boycott of the Moscow Olympics in face of a determined counter-effort by the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC), according to administration officials.

Home teams win playoffs

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP) — The home teams took advantage of their home-court advantage as the National Basketball Association playoffs got under way, and they did it largely with defense.

"We had to win this first one because it's the key in a short series," said forward Caldwell Jones, who had 18 points and 26 rebounds as the Philadelphia 76ers turned off Washington's power game and beat the Bullets 111-96 Wednesday night in the opener of their best-of-three mini-series.

"Tonight was the most important game," added Jones. "Hopefully we'll get one more important one Friday night."

All three other home teams also won Wednesday night and can wrap up their first-round series on Friday.

The best defense of the four opening games was played by the Houston Rockets, who held San Antonio, the league's highest scoring team, 34 points below its average and beat the Spurs 95-85.

San Antonio went 5:41 without a point and was outscored 24-11 in the quarter as Houston overcame a 51-42 halftime deficit.

In the Western Conference, the Phoenix Suns beat the Kansas City Kings 96-93 in what Suns coach John MacLeod called "typical of every game we play against the Kings, a tough defensive battle all the way."

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The officials angrily criticized the USOC for what they termed intense lobbying of sports officials and sportswriters around the country to press for an end to the boycott, called in protest against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

"A small group of willful people are ignoring both the pledge of the U.S. Olympic Committee in February, American public opinion and the clear imperative that the Soviet Union should not score a second propaganda victory," a senior State Department official told Reuters.

"We are now going to make a collective all-out effort to remind the people of this country and the members of the USOC of the absolute immorality of doing business as usual with a country that is destroying another country," he said.

The launching of the administration campaign follows several setbacks abroad. These include decisions by the Norwegian, British and Canadian Olympic committees to attend the games and refusal by the West German government to take a decision until late May.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance telephoned West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher several days ago to ask for a more forthcoming attitude in support of the boycott, U.S. officials said.

The Bonn government has indicated it would oppose West German participation should Soviet troops still be in Afghanistan in May, and its final decision is expected to affect many West European and Third World nations.

Diplomatic sources doubted that the administration's effort would succeed. "I can see the American concern that the whole structure is rocky. But they can't push us to make an earlier decision," one West European diplomat said.

But U.S. officials said Genscher had accepted a U.S. request that West German diplomats explain the likely Bonn decision to boycott the games to African and Latin American nations that are expected to follow the West German lead.

The main United States effort over the next 10 days will be to convince U.S. public opinion to support the boycott, which President Carter announced on Jan. 20.

"If we stand firm, we'll get the others," the State Department official said. "The European attitude is totally dependent on us."

The new U.S. determination corresponds to a fear among top officials that public opinion may be starting to shift away from the previous overwhelming support for a boycott.

Both houses of Congress passed near-unanimous resolutions in favor of a boycott in January, and a USOC-commissioned poll found public support of more than two-to-one in early March.

Purtzer's record score leads in Greater Greensboro Open

GREENSBORO, North Carolina, April 4 (AP) — Tom Purtzer figured he was a lucky man on at least three counts. "I just feel fortunate I was able to play today," he said after firing a course-record, 8-under-par 64 for the first-round lead Thursday in the \$250,000 Greater Greensboro Open.

He explained he's had some chronic eye trouble, which flared up Wednesday and forced him to withdraw from the Pro-Am event that preceded the tournament. "I really don't know what it is," he said. "I have some trouble making my eyes focus. It just lasts a short time."

It didn't bother him during the first round. He got maximum mileage from his short game — once dropping a 30-foot (9 meter) sidehill putt for a birdie and chipping in from the rough for another.

"I feel like I turned a 67 into a 64," he said. And that's lucky.

And the final point was the weather. It was near ideal when Purtzer played in the early morning. The mild temperatures, gentle breezes and partly sunny skies were in sharp contrast to the wind, rain and cold that often afflict this old event.

"With the weather they usually have here, when you get a good day and shoot a good score, you kind of feel like you smuck something," Purtzer said.

Purtzer clipped two shots off the listed record for the 6,984 yard Forest Oaks Country Club course with his no-bogey round and led by two over his former Arizona State teammate Bob Gilder, who tied the old record at 66.

Danny Edwards, a former Greensboro champion, and Craig Stadler, who won the Bob Hope Tournament that opened the 1930 season, were tied at 67 in the exceptionally low scoring.

The group at 68 included Al Geiberger, George Burns, Larry Nelson, Larry Ziegler, Pat McGowan, Ed Dougherty and Ron Streck.

In Rancho Mirage, California Sandra Palmer shot an opening 6-under-par 66 Thursday to take the first round lead in the \$325,000 Winners Circle Golf Tournament.

Looking for her first Ladies Professional Golf Association victory on more than two years, Palmer chipped six strokes off par on the front nine on her way to a 30, then parred every hole on the back side.

She held a 2-stroke lead over the 68s posted by fellow Americans Peggy Conley, Beth Solomon and Vicki Ferguson over the 6,242-yard, par 36-36-72 Mission Hills Country Club.

McEnroe struggles to quarterfinals

MONTE CARLO, April 4 (APF) — Second-seeded John McEnroe of the United States had a hard time dropping a set without winning even a game, as he beat Italian Corrado Barazzutti to advance into the quarterfinals of the Monte Carlo Open Tennis Championship.

But McEnroe kept himself from being a surprise loser, as was American and third seed Jimmy Connors Wednesday to Frenchman Jean-Francois Caujolle, by regrouping his forces and going to the net to take the third set for the match 6-1, 0-6, 6-2.

Number one seed Bjorn Borg of Sweden had a tough first set but easily closed out Argentinian Jose Luis Clerc 7-5, 6-3 in a quarter final match.

Borg will meet American Vitas Gerulaitis, the number 4 seed, in the semi-finals. Gerulaitis easily rolled the eighth seed, Chilean Hans Gildemeister, 6-1, 6-4, with the American volleying well and often at the net.

Argentinian Guillermo Vilas also had no problems, annihilating American Bill Scanlon 6-3, 6-1.

Vilas will play McEnroe in a quarter final match which should draw a large crowd, with Vilas the surprise favorite because of his excellent play so far on the slow surface at Monte Carlo.

Ugandan leads Kenya Safari rally

NAIROBI, April 4 (R) — Ugandan-born Shekhar Mehta's works team Datsun 160J led the field warding off the Mercedes challenge at the start of the gruelling 5,510 kilometers (3,426 miles) Kenya Safari Motor Rally late Thursday night.

Mehta, a local driver who won the event for the second time last year, had incurred a 22 point penalty as the cars checked through Kisumu control point of the shores of Lake Victoria.

Rally officials reported the route on the 1,889 kilometers (1,174 miles) first leg dusty, dry and very rough because of drought.

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Accordingly a wide range of reports on Saudi buying habits and practices in relation to specific consumer items is also available. Each report priced according to the depth of the study is accompanied with an outline of the methodology used in the study.

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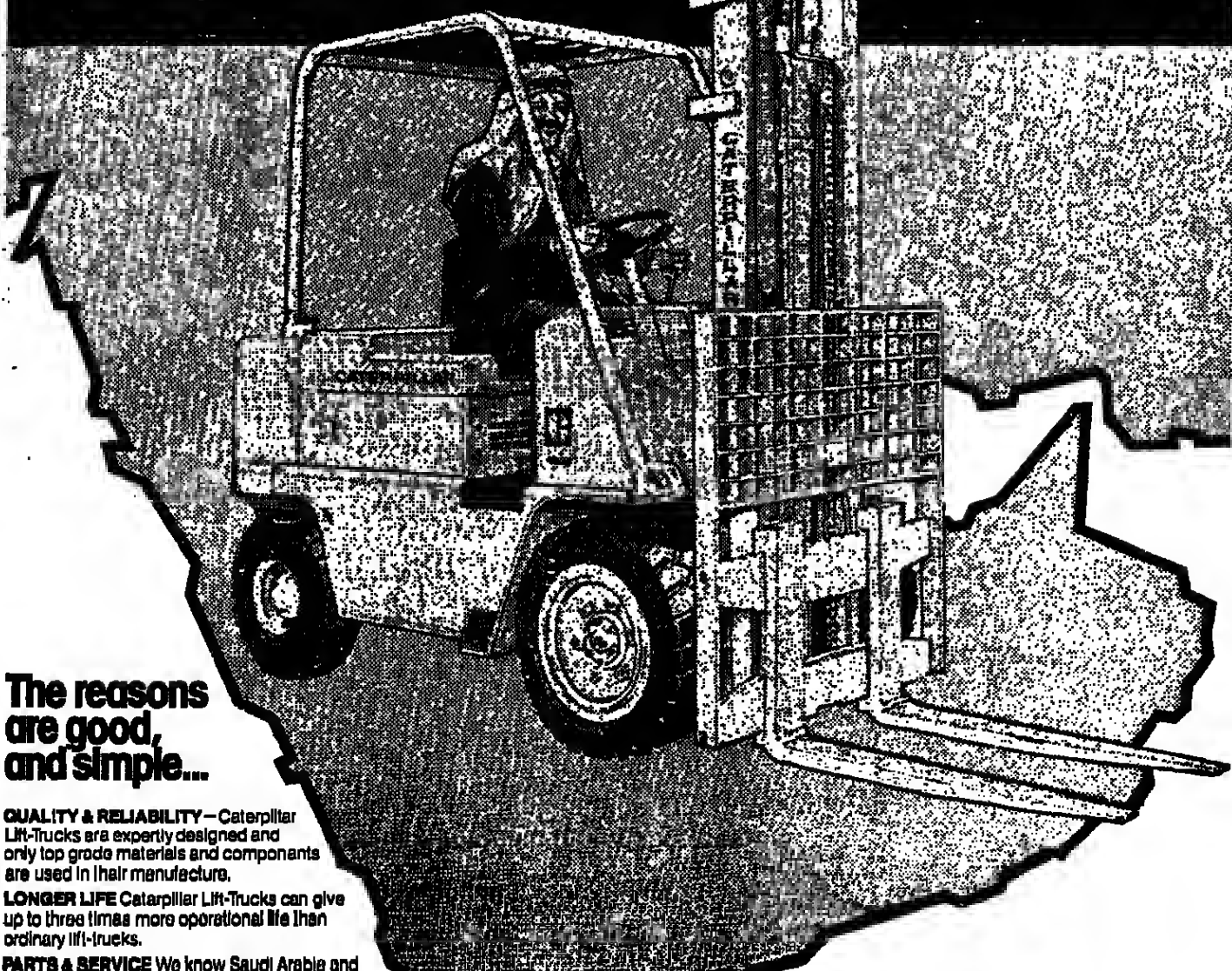
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1U/W	Car ownership	850
1V/W	Numbers of cars owned, and make	1300
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THE JERUSALEM PLIGHT

The plight of Jerusalem has come to the forefront as the Egyptian parliament voted this week for a resolution condemning Israeli policies in regard to the holy city, and rejecting any peace agreement which does not provide for its return to Islam and to the Arabs. Israel answered immediately by a reiteration of its view of Jerusalem as its "eternal capital," and that it is "indivisible," and that its population will be excluded from whatever "autonomy" deal the Camp David side might throw to the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The Israeli statement came also at a time when the Carter administration made public the American president's invitation to both Sadat and Begin to come to Washington in a bid to rescue the bankrupt "Palestinian autonomy" talks between them, whose deadline, May 26, is drawing alarmingly near. One might wonder what success Carter's bridge-building exercise hopes to achieve, given that both sides appear to be back at square one once more, a position this strange "peace process" often finds itself in.

One might also wonder what profit the Western powers think might accrue from delaying their peace initiative, in compliance with pressures from the United States, in order that the "Camp David" initiative is given a chance. It is certain that the Camp David side will make no progress, whether on the question of Jerusalem or on any of the other outstanding issues. And that the deadline, declared to be binding by Sadat, will be merely extended. There is nothing the Camp David side can offer but further wasted time, with all the danger this implies for the area.

The fate of Jerusalem figured in another context. King Hassan of Morocco, representing the Islamic world, and accompanied by two high Islamic officials, visited the Vatican Wednesday for talks with the Pope on the holy city's future. The visit comes in the context of the attempt by the Islamic side to revive the Muslim-Christian dialogue, which went into abeyance after the strong start it made in 1973. One of the main objectives of the dialogue was to look into the possibility of coordinated action to safeguard the threatened historical character of the holy city, and to save it from the clutches of the oppressive and intolerant Zionist occupier.

reported that the Israeli forces have surrounded Hebron to stop Arab demonstrations against Jewish rehabilitation in the occupied town. *Al Nadwa* played as its front-page story a summit meeting between King Hassan II of Morocco, President Giscard d'Estaing of France and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat scheduled to be held in the French capital. *Al Medina* highlighted a statement by the U.S. Treasury Secretary that the meetings of the Saudi-American Joint Commission play a positive role in strengthening the relations between the two countries.

The newspapers also front-paged the arrival of Prince Majed in Jeddah to take up his new assignment as Governor of Mecca region.

Commenting on the appointment of new governors in some regions, *Al-Madina* highlighted King Khalid's counsel to them to fear God while administering to the people and to contribute their

efforts in boosting the state's development. The paper described it as the Islamic way, saying that persons in authority are responsible for the defense of faith, moral values and the welfare of their people.

In an editorial on the Information Minister's press statement, *Al Jazirah* said the minister has reaffirmed the Kingdom's desire to serve its people and all others from fraternal and friendly countries. The paper said the minister's statement to SPA came at a time when tension was mounting in international relations as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Soviet military occupation of Muslim Afghanistan.

The minister made it clear that the Kingdom's policy does not alter with the changing events at the international level, the paper said, adding that Saudi Arabia pursues a firm policy that cannot be shaken by hostile forces.

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principle to stand by its Arab and Muslim brethren and to work closely for their economic growth and development. It added that the Kingdom has a lasting sense of responsibility toward the countries of the Third World and makes sincere efforts to keep the developing nations away from international economic difficulties.

Al Nadwa also commented on the Information Minister's statement, saying that he has clarified the Kingdom's desire to maintain good-neighborly relations and to abstain from intervention in the internal affairs of any country. Despite this desire, said the paper, the minister also made it clear that the Kingdom feels committed to consolidate the bonds of solidarity and cooperation with the Arab and Islamic states.

As a result of its objective policy, the Kingdom has received full response and cooperation from the Gulf states in consolidating the bonds of brotherliness and mutual

take place at the end of February.

Officials have made clear the meeting was put off at Moscow's insistence, and the leadership's announcement of the decision left no doubt that it was a reluctant move.

After declaring its commitment to staging the summit by the end of 1988, East Germany set about repairing the damage. For almost 10 years East Berlin had played the reluctant partner in negotiations on joint East-West German projects. But in February it astonished Bonn by proposing a package of agreements worth more than five billion marks (\$2.6 billion).

Most inter-German talks center on measures to improve road and rail links between West Germany and West Berlin, at the heart of East German territory. Bonn foots the bill for the necessary work. Schmidt rejected the East German proposals, which involved the electrification of railway lines and the construction of a power station in East Germany to feed West Berlin, saying they were inadequately thought out and too expensive.

But the rebuff did not dull East Berlin's enthusiasm. A smaller package of agreements worth 500 million marks (\$260 million) is expected to be signed shortly.

East Germany's next step in warding off the crisis came during the March Leipzig Trade Fair, the first meeting between Eastern and Western businessmen since the incursion.

As newspapers hammered out the new official line that business and politics do not mix, Honecker went out of his way to tour Western government and company exhibits and spread optimism about the future of East-West trade links.

Foreign trade officials, usually the most secretive in the Soviet bloc, let it be known they planned to buy industrial equipment worth up to six billion marks (\$3.1 billion) from the West over the next five years.

In the same week, Honecker took the unheard-of step of opening a West German-built chemical plant and used the opportunity to praise the capitalist concerns from across the border for their efficiency and reliability.

The thrust of the East German policy has been to demonstrate that détente is divisible, and that events in southern Asia need not have repercussions in Europe.

There can be no suspicion that East Berlin regrets or disapproves of Moscow's Afghan adventure. Long the most active of the Kremlin's allies, with widespread military and political involvement in Africa, East Germany has also been helping out in Kabul.

Two plane-loads of wounded Afghan government troops have been flown to East Germany for specialist medical care and shipments of emergency aid supplies have been flown out to the Afghan capital.

East Berlin has also signed agreements with the new Afghan leadership to help develop the country's education system and "information service" — taken by Western diplomats here to mean the intelligence and secret police networks.

E.German openness to West

By Mark Wood

EAST BERLIN —

Balanced between the demands of its traditional support for Moscow and the need to protect its economic interests, East Germany has been working hard to keep East-West tension over Afghanistan well out of Central Europe.

While the international climate has deteriorated following the Soviet thrust into Afghanistan, the East Berlin leadership has struck a new note of openness and cordiality in its links with Western Europe, and above all with West Germany.

Communist Party Chief Erich Honecker has taken unprecedented steps of lavishing praise on West German businesses active in the East, trade officials have been tempting Western firms with offers of lucrative contracts, and the government has shown uncharacteristic keenness to launch a series of ambitious projects with Bonn.

"Relations haven't been so good in years, though nobody knows how long it will last," one West German official commented. "In the three months since the Afghan crisis began East Berlin has been more friendly toward us than in the whole 10 years of détente."

The Bonn government of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has shown itself equally anxious to shield its delicate links with the East from the present international storm.

As a result, for the first time since World War II a crisis between the two superpowers has not been reflected in an upsurge of tension between the two German states, normally the most sensitive barometer of international relations.

East Germany was the first Soviet bloc country to announce its backing for the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan with a government statement of staunch support and flurry of press commentaries justifying the invasion and blasting its Western critics.

But the enthusiasm quickly waned when it became clear a major East-West crisis had erupted. Officials admit privately it was Washington's announcement of selective trade sanctions against the Soviet Union which first sounded alarm bells.

East Germany's entire economic strategy rests on a sharp expansion of exports to the West and the import of sophisticated Western technology to overhaul its obsolete industries. Extension of the U.S. measures into an all-round East-West trade freeze would thus deal a crippling blow to the leadership's plans.

The Communist Party chiefs moved quickly to keep their economic lifelines moving and reduce the political temperature in Europe.

The state-run media, which normally treat West Germany as the ideological arch-enemy, suddenly directed their fire at the U.S.

While the Carter administration has been the subject of daily attacks since January, comments by West German leaders in support of American policies have been largely overlooked.

But the new strategy soon suffered a major blow with the postponement of a planned summit between the two German leaders which was due to

Friends in need

Afghanistan has shocked the West into realizing the importance of its Third World friends, but the relationship with them will not be easy, as the writer reports from Thailand.

By Mark Frankland

I met Lek in a cafe in Songkhla, a fishing port in the south of Thailand. He has a wide face, snub nose, the beginnings of a moustache and husky eyes. They followed me as I sat down and within a minute he came over to my table.

A Vietnamese refugee camp and some offshore oil exploration have brought a trickle of foreigners to Songkhla over the past year and Lek has made a modest living from them, sometimes as a guide. Foreigners are rich, so he likes them. He, more than anything else, wants to be very rich.

One day he told me his dream. He would marry a Thai beauty queen. He would give a huge party at the biggest hotel in Bangkok to which all the important people would come. He would ride in a large car and never walk unless he had to. His children would be doctors and lawyers.

Only 19, he is not worried that he has not got very far toward realizing his dream.

Apart from his English Lek's only obvious advantage over his poor farmer father is that he has carefully kept his skin light by staying out of the sun, while his father's has been darkened by years of work in the rice fields. Lek despises his father and his dark skin. "I hate poor people," he said.

Thailand, with a Vietnamese-dominated Indochina along its eastern and northern border, is one of the West's most important allies in Asia. Were it to collapse into chaos or Communism there would be panic among its neighbors and friends in the region.

But Thailand is not an easy ally for the West because so much of its politics and way of life goes against the Western grain. It is not a poor country by Third World standards. It has a rich agriculture and a benign climate.

But Lek and most other village children like him get at best only a few years' primary education because their families can afford no more. A quarter get none at all. Lek comes from the bottom fifth of peasant families who live below the official poverty line. His father, like almost all Thai farmers, even those a good deal better off, is in debt to money-lenders who charge interest rates that are sometimes as high as 100 per cent.

It is not the existence of poverty that puts off the Westerner, of course, but the indifference of the governing class toward it. Lek is unlikely to think that politics might help him or his family (unless he turns to the Communist guerrillas who have been fighting for years in the poorest parts of the country).

Politics in Thailand belong to the ruling class of army officers and the well-to-do, many of whom are part Chinese, which marks them off even further from people like Lek. The government has neither the will, the means nor the prestige to carry out a program of real reforms.

The just-dismissed Premier General Kriangsak

inaugurated what he called the "Year of the Farmer" but there is no evidence that the farmer noticed that the past year was different from the other. Last year's budget for the defense and interior ministries was more than five times that for agriculture.

There has been a Land Reform Act on the books since 1975 but little is done about it. Corruption is part of government at every level. Even a peasant can buy himself out of military service for \$20 but that, of course, is a fortune he is unlikely to have.

Thailand, like most countries outside the Western world, lives in several different centuries at the same time. Lek spent the first years of his life in a very different world from the way his ancestors did a few hundred years before.

The Thai army keeps on asking the Americans for modern equipment, but the soldiers who man the new American M48 tanks would not happily go into battle without a sacred amulet around their necks. The strain of having to live in different worlds can be read on the unsmiling, always anguished face of the king, who presides over court stiff with archaic ritual yet himself is at ease the year of 20th century manners and ideas.

What the West must do, before there is a crisis in Thailand (or Pakistan or any of the other countries that are in danger of being caught up in the rivalry the Soviet Union insists on imposing) is to understand that it can never, by its self-centered standards, be a perfect ally. The Americans felt the trap in South Vietnam. President Thieu was supposed by American propaganda to be a democratic leader whereas he was just another corrupt politician.

Of course, one can point to signs of change in Thailand that suggest, as all good liberals would like to believe, that progress is somehow inevitable given a chance. The steadily growing urban work force, concentrated in Bangkok, has developed trade unions and forces the government to recognize them. The press has a fair freedom to criticize. Students can debate and demonstrate. Earlier this year a military court acquitted for lack of evidence two men held since 1976 as Communist sympathizers.

Perhaps this is the way Thailand will develop. But Thailand's readiness to resist Vietnam if the need arises will not spring from Western liberal objections to Communism. It will come from an old racial fear and dislike of the Vietnamese and a nationalism (containing a generous measure of distrust of foreigners) that centers on the king. Even Lek, who seldom worries about such things, says he would like to "fight for my king and queen."

Will this satisfy the West? The sort of Thai Westerners are most likely to meet are not the Lek's but those who have been influenced by the West and are most impatient with the old Thai ways of doing things. They talk movingly of the possibility of democracy in a country which, in truth, has only two immediate choices, the present unsatisfactory and sometimes tragic muddle of old and new or the totalitarian rule pioneered in Asia by China and now Vietnam. (OFNS)

saudi press review

The majority of weekend newspapers led with Minister of Information Dr. Muhammad Abdo Yaman's speech in a press statement that the Kingdom strives to consolidate its solidarity with Arab and Islamic states, and the Gulf states support Saudi Arabia's call for the people of the region to build their destiny with their own hands. In a lead story, *Al Riyadh* said European members of the U.N. Security Council were trying to defer voting on the draft resolution regarding Palestinian rights, in the hope of seeing a positive change in the American stance.

Al Medina played as its lead story a reported statement by the British Foreign Ministry that the Saudi measures against Mrs. Arnot were its right. Mrs. Arnot is the wife of a British doctor who organized function at a private hospital in Jeddah in which a nurse and her lover died. Mrs. Arnot was reported to have served liquor at the party.

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reported that the Israeli forces have surrounded Hebron to stop Arab demonstrations against Jewish rehabilitation in the occupied town. *Al Nadwa* played as its front-page story a summit meeting between King Hassan II of Morocco, President Giscard d'Estaing of France and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat scheduled to be held in the French capital. *Al Medina* highlighted a statement by the U.S. Treasury Secretary that the meetings of the Saudi-American Joint Commission play a positive role in strengthening the relations between the two countries.

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As a result of its objective policy, the Kingdom has received full response and cooperation from the Gulf states in consolidating the bonds of brotherliness and mutual

understanding. This response has been the outcome of a belief that mutual cooperation and solidarity provide the only alternative to reduce foreign influence.

The paper stressed that the Arab nation as a whole was in great need of a far-sighted approach at a time when it was surrounded by difficult circumstances. Such an approach will help in eliminating side differences and mutual hostilities and will pave the way for dedicating all efforts to the service of the nation's crucial issues.

Dealing with the strategy pursued by the Soviet Union and the U.S., with one concentrating on Afghanistan and the other on Israel, *Al Riyadh* said it was impossible for them to unify their objectives for the creation of a free world, which has remained a dream for the countries of the Third World. As a result of the policies of superpowers, said the paper, Afghanistan awaits the same future which has now become a past for the Arab world.



"Move away quietly, this is a price inspector!"

Al Nadwa

هتاتني الاصل



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ALTAMIRA Green Beans	12x800 G	4.00	48—	3.00 33
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ALTAMIRA Green Beans	24x400 G	2.00	48—	1.50 25
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ALTAMIRA New Potatoes	24x400 G	1.50	36—	1.00 20
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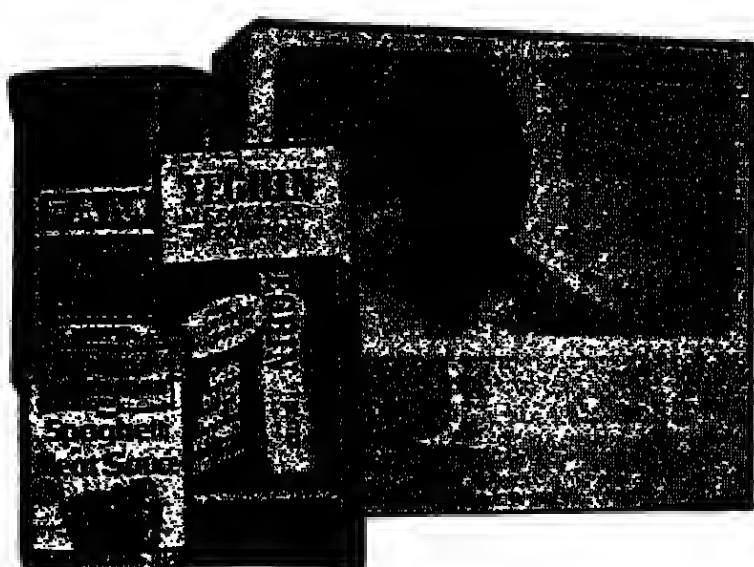
24x15 oz	4.50	108—	3.00 70
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CHEF BOY'ARDEE BEEF RAVIOLI	24x15 oz	4.25	102—	3.00 70
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CHEF BOY'ARDEE BEEF RAVIOLI	24x7 1/2	2.50	60—	2.00 40
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FRANCO AMERICAN Spaghetti & Meat - Balls	24x15 oz	4.25	102—	3.00 70
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FRANCO AMERICAN Spaghetti in Meat - Sauce	24x14 3/4	4.25	102—	3.00 70
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FAME Red Sour Pitted Cherries	24x303	7.50	150—	5.00 100
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NESTLE Cookie Mix Sugar	12x15 oz	5.25	63—	4.00 45
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NESTLE Cookie Mix Oatmeal - Raisin	12x15 oz	5.25	63—	4.00 45
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KELLOGG'S Fruit Loops	24x11 oz	6.50	156—	5.00 —
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KELLOGG'S Frosted Corn Flakes	24x15 oz	7.25	174—	6.00 —
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KELLOGG'S Sugar Smacks	24x18 oz	7.50	180—	6.00 —
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KELLOGG'S Sugar Corn Pops	24x15 oz	7.50	180—	6.00 —
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MOTT'S Natural Style Apple Sauce	12x20 oz	3.75	45—	3.00 35
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MOTT'S Cinnamon Flavored Apple Sauce	12x25 oz	4.00	48—	3.00 35
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FAME Peanut Butter	12x28 oz	8.75	105—	6.50 70
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TEGRIN Medicated Shampoo	3.2 oz	11.75	11.75	10.00 —
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DON'T FORGET



SAVE THE BIG AND FRIENDLY WAY



Near downtown Johannesburg

Guerrillas attack police station

JOHANNESBURG, April 4 (AP) — Black nationalist guerrillas attacked a police station near downtown Johannesburg early Friday, hitting the building with automatic weapon fire, rockets and grenades, police said.

There were only two policemen in the station and no injuries were reported.

Several houses around the station, in the Boysens area, also were hit by the insurgents' fire in the latest in a series of attacks on police stations.

It was the first time the nationalists have attacked a station in a white urban area.

Police Brig. Johan Coetzee said, "We are just very glad nobody was injured."

Witnesses said the blacks sped away, tossing Marxist literature out, some of which demanded the release of black nationalist Walter Sisulu.

Sisulu was imprisoned 16 years ago with Nelson Mandela, leader of the banned African National Congress, which seeks the overthrow of this country's white minority government.

The ANC pledged intensified attacks following a siege at a Pretoria bank in January when three blacks took white hostages in an unsuccessful bid to force Mandela's release.

The three guerrillas and two hostages died when the station was stormed.

A shopkeeper, whose house was adjacent to the station, said he woke up to the sound of automatic weapon fire. A bullet smashed through glass in the front door and ricocheted through the hallway.

"I crawled to my children's bedroom. They were crying, they were scared. I quickly switched off the porch lights," said Dino Martins.

"I could hear the sound of big guns like a bazooka. I saw that the window next to the door was broken and a bullet had knocked a large chunk of plaster out of the wall in the hall."

"I was in Angola during the trouble there. When I heard the noise I thought everything was finished."

Witnesses said the attack lasted more than five minutes, with the two policemen returning the fire. One white resident reportedly chased the guerrillas, firing his gun at their van.

Police said there were up to 11 insurgents, possibly the biggest concentration yet of guerrillas in an urban action here. The assault occurred virtually in the shadow of Johannesburg's skyscrapers. Boysens is less than

two kilometers from downtown.

The attack started a fire in the upper story of the police station, and the building's canteen was heavily damaged. Police said they returned to their normal duties within two hours.

In the Pretoria incident, the blacks that died in the police shootout that reclaimed the bank were said to be members of the ANC. They were armed with Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifles, police said.

The South African government warned black militants afterwards that police would match violence with violence if they tried to repeat the bank raid. Prime Minister Pieter Botha said in a statement issued in Cape Town that "any form of terrorism or any act going against the laws of the country will have the state to contend with."

He was "deeply grieved that the vicious terrorists could succeed in spilling innocent blood," he said.

Maj. Gen. H.V. Verster, the head of counter-insurgency at police headquarters, said he viewed the incident "as a continuation of acts of terrorism experienced by all Western countries."



Bert Lance

Lance count dismissed

ATLANTA, Georgia, April 4, (R) — A judge has dismissed a conspiracy charge against former U.S. Budget Director Bert Lance — the major count in a series of federal bank fraud charges for which he went on trial 12 weeks ago.

U.S. District Judge Charles Moye Thursday also dismissed the conspiracy indictment against three co-defendants.

Lance, a close friend of President Jimmy Carter and once a powerful figure in his administration, still faces, along with the three co-defendants, 32 remaining counts.

But the indictment alleging conspiracy to enter into a bank fraud was regarded as the main plank in the prosecution's case.

Lance, former head of two Georgia banks,

who served as Carter's director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget in 1977, said: "I feel extremely good about the decision."

Now 48, Lance resigned in September 1977 after coming under fire for alleged personal financial malpractices.

Chief Prosecutor Edwin Tomko said the decision by Moye would not affect the rest of the government's charges against the four men.

On trial with Lance are Thomas Mitchell, his close friend and financial trustee, Richard Carr, Lance's former banking associate, and Jackson Mullins, another close friend of the ex-budget director.

Governor declares emergency

Eruption in offing for Washington volcano

VANCOUVER, Washington, April 4 (AP) — Mount St. Helens spat more plumes of gas and volcanic ash into the sky Thursday and scientists said they were more convinced than ever that a lava eruption from the volcano is likely.

Dixy Lee Ray, governor of this northwestern U.S. state, placed the peak area under a state of emergency saying "the possibility of a major eruption or mudflow is real."

Scientists continued to speculate that an eruption of lava was likely, and observers said harmonic tremors shook the volcano again after nightfall. The unusual series of rhythmic earth tremors, taken as a forerunner of a major eruption, first occurred Wednesday night but had stopped during the day Thursday.

"We do know the magma (molten material) is moving" beneath the volcano, said geophysicist Bob Christiansen of the U.S. Geological Survey. "The harmonic tremor (recorded late Wednesday) makes it seem likely we will go to a magmatic eruption."

"We've always said that was a likely possibility. It seems even more likely now, although not necessarily today or tomorrow. It could be a week or a period of weeks or more."

An earthquake is an impulsive event as recorded on a seismograph but a harmonic

tremor is a rhythmic, continuous event, Christiansen said.

The newly active volcano belched a plume of steam and ash to an altitude of 4,800 meters Thursday afternoon in an eruption lasting 10 minutes, said Lynn Robertson, spokeswoman for the U.S. Forest Service.

A later eruption lasted 40 minutes with the plume reaching to 4,200 meters, there were reports of ash falling as far away as Tacoma, more than 96 kms to the north.

Four avalanches from about the 1,320-meter level of the mountain's north slope took some trees in their wake, said Don Mul-

lineux, a USGS geophysicist. He said the avalanches probably were caused by new snow, earthquakes, and a warming of the mountain.

Christiansen said scientists can't tell exactly where the hot, molten rock is in the 2,903-meter mountain, which began erupting on March 27 after 123 years of quiet. University of Washington scientists estimate the lava could be about 4 kms below sea level.

The few people who live in the immediate vicinity of the mountain were evacuated when it began blowing gas and ash into the air and threatening to shake loose avalanches.

Tito's condition continues grave

BELGRADE, April 4 (AP) — Doctors for President Josip Broz Tito said Friday his condition remained very grave and reported no further abatement in his pneumonia.

"High temperature persists," Tito's eight-doctor medical panel said in a brief mid-day bulletin. "Intensive care continues."

Doctors for the 87-year-old Yugoslav leader have blamed the high temperature, known to exist for more than one week, on an undescribed "septic condition" which was resisting medication.

Tito was also suffering from kidney failure, heart weakness, pneumonia and problems

with internal bleeding.

The afflictions developed as complications which ended Tito's apparent recovery from the Jan. 20 amputation of his left leg.

Tito's leg was taken off to remove a blood circulation blockage which doctors had not been able to ease with medication or a blood vessel bypass operation.

By Friday, Tito had spent 84 straight days in the Ljubljana Clinical Center in Slovenia. His condition has been described as consistently very grave for weeks and doctors had not even mentioned his mental state since Feb. 20.

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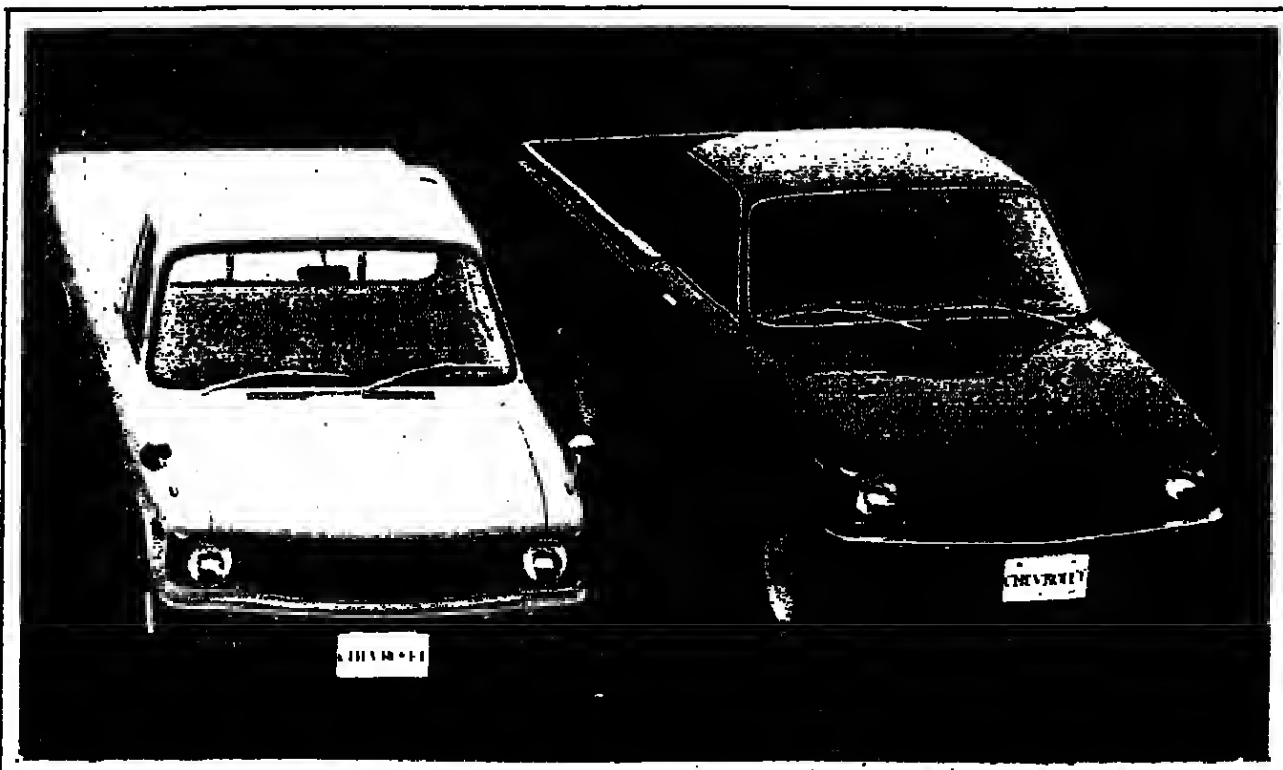
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Before latest round of talks
Colombia leftists release 2 hostages

BOGOTA, April 4 (AP) — Guerrillas released two more of the captives held inside the Dominican Republic embassy on Thursday, three hours before the 10th round of talks with the government opened.

The release left 25 hostages in the embassy. The guerrillas had been saying since Monday that non-diplomatic hostages would be released before Easter. There still are six non-diplomatic hostages among the captives, according to the government.

The freed hostages, Colombian protocol officer Edgar Antonio Hernandez Rojas and Dominican citizen Mario Guzman Cabrales, were taken from the area in a Red Cross vehicle. Hernandez Rojas, a Spanish clergyman, who entered about an hour earlier. The hostages carried packets of clothing and were taken from the area in a Red Cross vehicle.

Hernandez Rojas, one of two protocol officers held, Guzman Cabrales could not be further identified immediately. Both were in the embassy when M-19 guerrillas shot their way in during a diplomatic reception Feb. 27. The rabbi, wearing a black robe and a large gold star of David, presumably went to the embassy to see Israeli Ambassador Elisha

Barak, one of the 13 ambassadors or acting ambassadors held.

After Wednesday's ninth round of talks, the government said the guerrillas made a brief survey of Colombian proposals for ending the crisis and promised to give a more detailed response at the next meeting.

Thursday's session opened at local time and lasted only 15 minutes.

The guerrillas were represented by an unidentified masked woman who was accompanied by Peruvian Consul Alfredo Tejada, one of the hostages. Deputy Foreign Ministers Camilo Jimenez and Ramiro Zambrano again represented the government.

The meeting, the shortest of the negotiating sessions so far, ended with the guerrilla negotiator shaking hands with the government negotiators. Tejada carried papers with him when he left the cream-colored van where the session was held. There was no immediate word on what took place.

The guerrillas — whose name comes from the April 19 movement which contends the 1970 presidential election was rigged — have demanded the release of at least 28 alleged political prisoners in exchange for the hostages. The government has contended that it

has no political prisoners.

Informed sources said the government proposals included inviting a team from the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, Based in the U.S. and Amnesty International, the Nobel peace prize-winning London-based human rights group, to observe trials of suspected guerrillas and to investigate guerrilla complaints of torture and other alleged abuses.

The invitation to the Inter-American Commission was made earlier this week and a spokesman said it would send a delegation April 21. A spokesman for Amnesty International said it would be interested in taking part but had not yet received an invitation to do so.

The sources said the government also proposed switching the trials of the accused terrorists, said to number about 300, from military to civilian courts. This was seen as a way to free some of them because they already had been held longer than allowed by civilian laws without court action.

At a consecrated mass marking Holy Thursday, Roman Catholic Cardinal Anibal Munoz implored God to "knock on the door of the embassy of Santo Domingo and save our friends."



Belgian prime minister quits

BRUSSELS, April 4 (AFP) — Prime Minister Wilfried Martens has submitted his government's resignation to King Baudouin, following Thursday's rejection by the senate of Martens' plan to divide Belgium into three federated language regions.

A palace statement said that King Baudouin, who interrupted a Spanish holiday to fly home for the meeting with Martens, had not yet announced whether he would accept the resignation. In the meantime he had asked Martens to do everything he could to solve the crisis.

Observers however predicted that his chances of doing so were slim. They noted that if the king does accept Martens' resignation, it will be the sixth Belgian government in 10 years to be brought down over the regionalization written into the 1970 constitution.

At the beginning of this year, King Baudouin appealed to Belgians to "support reform of the state."

The government's proposal to federalize

Belgium into three regions — Flemish-speaking Flanders, French-speaking Wallonia, and bilingual Brussels — was thrown out Thursday by the senate over an essential point of the plan, the status of Belgium's capital.

Financial circles meanwhile fear that a new government crisis would have a bad effect on efforts to shore up the Belgian franc, which has been under pressure for more than six months.

Belgium at present has an unemployment rate running at 7.9 per cent, the second highest, after Ireland, in Western Europe. The government has also been borrowing heavily from abroad because of a growing public debt expected to reach 230,000 million francs (about \$ 8,250 million this year against 212,000 million francs (about 7,615 million dollars) in 1979.

In addition, forecasts say that exports will fall this year, the gross national product shrink, and unemployment reach 10 per cent by 1981.

As authorities threaten strikers, New Yorkers hoof it

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP) — Bus and subway workers demanded amnesty and most officials served notice strikers will be asked double wages for the duration as thousands of New Yorkers trudged to work on a fourth day — this time under the threat of bad weather.

Mayor Edward Koch urged businesses in

the nation's largest city to consider four-day work weeks in the face of the mass transit collapse.

And some officials began to worry that a prolonged shutdown of bus and subway lines could hurt New York's fragile economy — especially in the garment center.

"A strike settlement is not imminent," said Walter Gellhorn, head of the mediation panel that Thursday brought the striking union together with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. "I'd say the parties' positions have hardened by reason of this stoppage."

Salvadorans propose national rescue plan

WASHINGTON, April 4 (AP) — Two Salvadorans have announced a plan for broadening El Salvador's government that they said may be the only alternative to civil war in that country.

They said the plan is to incorporate a coalition of 32 business and workers' organizations into the government and thereby "incorporate private enterprise into the

economic life of the country."

Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, former chief of Salvador's army intelligence, and Alfredo Mena Lagos, a former coffee grower, said the coalition calls itself the Frente Amplio Nacional, or broad national front.

"We believe the junta will accept it because it is the only way out for them politically," Mena said Wednesday.

"We feel 90 per cent of the army knows this is the last chance before civil war," he said.

D'Aubuisson said leftist guerrillas are trying to take control of El Salvador as part of a "long war" Communist strategy begun in 1967 to take control of the Caribbean for its oil and the Panama Canal.

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OPEC plans 67% aid package increase of \$4b

BRUSSELS, April 4 (AP) — The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is considering increasing its current aid package to the Third World by almost 67 per cent to \$4 billion.

Ibrahim Shihata, director general of the OPEC fund — an aid agency of the 13-nation organization — said Wednesday the proposed increase will be discussed at a meeting of OPEC officials in Vienna next month.

Oil price rise expected

LONDON, April 4 (AFP) — Most oil producing countries could follow Iran and Nigeria in raising their prices, oil industry executives said.

Iran is adding \$2 or \$2.5 a barrel, depending on category, and Nigeria announced a 51 per cent rise, they said, adding that Saudi Arabia may keep its rates unchanged, however.

Kuwait, Libya and Iraq in particular may well announce increases, while Mexico was reported preparing a \$2 rise, the executives said.

The current fund amounts to \$2.4 billion. It started out with \$800 million when the oil nations set up the fund in late 1976.

Shihata told the Associated Press the fund distributes "mostly interest-free loans" to Third World countries. To date, 75 nations have benefited from the OPEC aid, he added.

Shihata, an Egyptian national, appeared before the European Parliament's Development and Cooperation Committee which is holding a series of hearings on hunger in the world.

He said oil countries "are trying to help much more, proportionately, than the rich countries."

Shihata said OPEC's depleting oil reserves leave its members in "hardly a profitable position." Yet the members "have been providing concessional assistance to other developing countries at a much higher ratio to their gross national product than that of the assistance provided by the really developed countries," he said.

Wall Street Weekly: Bad news abounds

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP) — The first quarter of 1980 produced a bumper crop of bad news on Wall Street.

In the brief but tumultuous three-month period that concluded this past week, bond prices tumbled, the stock market took its sharpest drop in five years, and Wall Street was further shaken by a near-disaster in the silver market.

As the quarter drew to a close, the markets showed signs of steadying. But there was little in the economic news to cheer about.

The bank prime lending rate climbed to a landmark high of 20 per cent. Inflation continued to rage, even as growing numbers of analysts were warning that a long-postponed recession now appeared at hand.

"The probabilities of a recession over term have risen dramatically," said Raymond F. Devoe Jr., an analyst at Bruns, Wordeman, Rea and Co. "The same thing applies to a credit crunches if we are not already in one. The chances have also shifted so that the recession will be a severe one, rather than the 'soft landing' the administration has been praying for. Our gut feeling — the recession will be sharp, fairly short in duration, and surprise everyone by how rapidly it becomes visible."

Despite all that gloom, the stock market managed to break a seven-week losing streak in the four-day period before the Good Friday-Easter holiday weekend. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials rose 6.48 to 784.13 for the week.

Algeria suspends shipments to largest U.S. gas customer

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP) — Algeria has suspended shipments of liquefied natural gas to its largest U.S. customer, the country's official press agency said Thursday. Algeria continued to demand a drastic increase in gas prices.

However, David Mackie, vice president of the importer, El Paso Co. of Houston, said: "There hasn't been a suspension, and we

Turkey raises oil product prices 13-33%

ANKARA, April 4 (R) — Turkey Friday raised the retail prices gasoline, diesel and other oil products by between 13 and 33 per cent the state radio reported.

It was the second large increase this year. The government raised prices by between 40 and 100 per cent last January as part of a sweeping economic package that included a 33 per cent currency devaluation.

The rises mean gasoline prices have gone up by more than 600 per cent in two years. The radio said normal gasoline prices had gone up from 33 lira per liter to 38 lira (\$2 per gallon to \$2.32), an increase of around 15 per cent.

Super grade went up from 37 lira to 42 lira (\$2.25 per gallon to \$2.56), the radio said.

Diesel, fuel oil, heating oil and other products rose by up to 33 per cent, it added.

The government had banned sales of petroleum products for the day pending an announcement of the increases.

Most U.S. banks adopt 20 per cent prime interest rate

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP) — Banks across the United States have adopted the 20 per cent prime rate it first posted a day earlier, and some economists said business borrowing may soon result of the record interest.

Citibank, the nation's second-largest and No. 3 Chase Manhattan bank in the record rate set Wednesday by Chemical Bank, and virtually all other banks joined the move to 20 per cent. "It's a reflection of the cost of money. That's the simple fact of the matter," a spokesman said.

The rate, which the banks' most worthy corporate customers pay on loans, was 19 per cent only last Friday had moved to 19 3/4 per cent on Tuesday.

The prime, which stood at 15 3/4 per cent in mid-February, has been climbing since the Federal Reserve Board in new credit controls on March 14.

The board is seeking to hold off growth of lending this year as it cools the economy and curbing inflation. Some banks feel a slowdown in may be difficult to achieve because corporations have standby credit agreements they will be able to borrow as needed. It is hoped high interest rates will persuade some of those customers not to borrow.

Although many bankers say loan remains strong, some economists believe a slowdown is about to surface.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 6:40 P.M. Wednesday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
U.S. Dollar	3.33	3.35	3.35
Pound Sterling	7.22	7.24	7.19
Deutsche Mark (100)	171.00	173.50	170.40
Swiss F (100)	180.00	183.00	179.25
French F (100)	74.00	75.50	74.05
Italian Lira (10,000)	37.00	38.00	37.00
Lebanese Lira (100)	98.00	96.70	97.00
Syrian Lira (100)	79.50	87.00	87.00
Egyptian Pound	4.48	4.41	4.41
Kuwaiti Dinar	12.18	12.03	12.03
Jordanian Dinar	10.95	10.76	10.76
Emirates Dirham (100)	89.50	89.50	89.50
Qatari Riyal (100)	91.00	91.00	91.00
Bahraini Dinar	8.92	8.92	8.92
Iranian Riyal (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar (100)	—	—	—
Yemeni Riyal (100)	73.75	73.25	73.25
Moroccan Dirham (100)	83.00	87.00	87.00
Indian Rupee (100)	—	40.90	40.90
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	34.00	34.00
Gold kg.	54,300.00	—	—
10 Tolas bar	6,350.00	—	—
Silver kg.	—	—	—
Japanese Yen (1,000)	13.30	—	13.50
Canadian Dollar	2.80	—	—
Belgian Franc (1,000)	107.00	188.00	—
Dutch Guilder (1,000)	156.00	—	157.50
Spanish Peso	—	50.00	49.00
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	81.00	—
Philippines Peso (1.00)	—	—	45.00
Singapore	—	—	1.45

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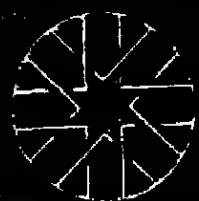
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Ministry of the Interior, Dept. of Public Security	Supply of raw materials for carpentry shop	6/400/1401	400	April 15
Ministry of Agriculture & Water	Deepening of ministry's well in Bani Amer, Biljirah, and other two in Si'ara, Tihama	55/1	200	April 8
Ministry of P.T.T.	Construction of modern buildings for P.T.T. in Baha, Jubail and Shaqraa	15-99/400	2000	April 15
Directorate of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Western Province	Illumination of entry to Al-Ola town	22	200	April 21
" " "	Fencing of graveyards in Al-Khurmah	23	300	April 23
" " "	Asphalting, paving and lighting of streets in Al-Ola	24	400	April 26
Municipality of Mecca	Operation and maintenance of lights in Mecca, Bahra, Shumaisi and the roads leading to the pilgrimage sites, as well as operation of two tunnels in Al-Ma'abdhah	23	500	April 30

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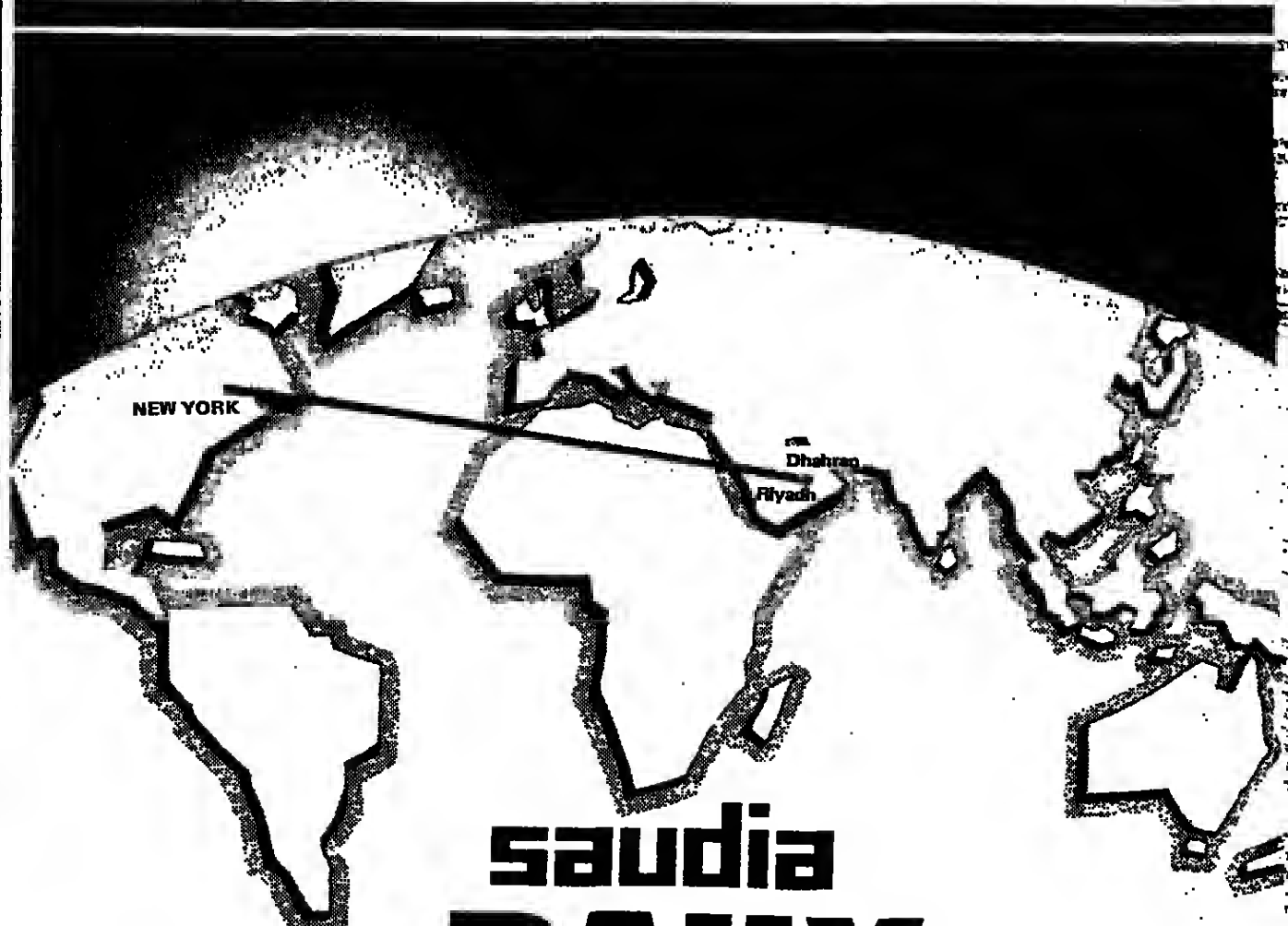


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You are what you eat

By Rose Dosti
The Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — The release of the revised edition of the Recommended Dietary Allowances, a guide to eating should help those who are concerned about health.

The guide calls for some major additions and changes that emphasize the importance of trace minerals and the need for more Vitamin C in the diet. The new RDAs also include allowances for Vitamin D to cover adults and recognizes the reduction in energy needs as adults grow older by providing a chart of energy requirements according to body weight and height.

The RDAs, originally established by the National Academy of Sciences, Food and Nutrition Board as a guide to planning and procuring food for the armed forces during World War II, is now used by dietitians in planning and evaluating diets for normal and therapeutic needs.

Because RDAs are difficult to translate into food, the Department of Agriculture has provided a "Daily Food Guide," reflecting the general nutritional requirements of the RDA. By following the Basic Four Food Group formula of the Daily Food Guide (four servings fruit and vegetables, two or three of milk products, two servings from the meat group and four from the bread and cereal group) one is assured of meeting or exceeding the new RDAs also.

The RDAs are intended to provide for the nutritional needs of healthy individuals. They are sufficiently high levels to cover requirements for health by most, even though needs vary from individual to individual.

Inclusion of trace minerals in the new RDAs indicates a need for emphasizing certain mineral-rich foods. According to Dr. Genevieve Ho, a nutritionist in Los Angeles, a diet that includes whole grains and cereals, dark green vegetables, fruits and eggs, will provide rich sources of trace minerals.

"Don't overlook the value of eggs as a source of important vitamins and minerals," she said. "Eggs have a lot to offer in a small, inexpensive package." Yolks contain iron, sulphur, aluminum and phosphate among other minerals.

Here are some of the key changes in the Ninth Edition of the Recommended Dietary Allowances.

Water Soluble Vitamins — The major change in this group was the increase in the allowance of Vitamin C in adults from 45 mg to 60 mg daily with corresponding increments for other age groups. (A serving of orange juice or a whole orange will fill the requirement for vitamin C for most people.) According to Nutrition and the M.D., a newsletter for physicians and nutritionists, the increase was prompted by evidence showing the rate of utilization of Vitamin C in the body and the amount needed to maintain a ready supply.

There also were minor increases in the allowance for B vitamins (thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, B6 and folacin).

Fat Soluble Vitamins — The new RDA added an allowance for Vitamin D for adults to focus on its important role in helping to minimize calcium loss in bones as one ages. The new Vitamin D recommendation calls for 5 mcg (200 international units) for adults. Vitamin D, linked with calcium in preventing osteoporosis, is found in milk and other dairy products and in fish oils.

The RDA for Vitamin E now appears in milligram measures instead of international units. According to Dr. Roslyn Alfin-Slater, professor of nutrition at the University of California, Los Angeles, and member of the RDA board, there is not evidence that large doses of Vitamin E are beneficial.

New Vitamin Additions — There were three new additions to the RDA for vitamins: Vitamin K, named for "Koagulation" and considered essential for normal blood coagulation, hiotin, a water soluble B complex vitamin widely available in foods such as milk, organ meats and egg yolk; and pantothenic acid, which is found in all types of foods. Deficiencies of pantothenic acid have never been clinically recognized in animals, although marginal deficiencies may exist in severely undernourished individuals, according to the newsletter.

Minerals — The new RDAs call for changes in and additions of some minerals. The revised edition emphasizes the importance of iron intake for women during their reproductive years, adolescence, pregnancy and lactation. Because iron needs cannot be met by the normal diet for these groups, a 30 to 60 mg supplementation of iron is advisable for pregnant women and should be continued for two months after parturition to assure replenishment of iron stores.

There was an addition of allowances for six trace minerals previously not listed in the RDAs: copper, manganese, fluoride, chromium, selenium and molybdenum. The RDAs caution against exceeding the upper levels of trace elements since most are toxic at high concentrations.

Protein — Although the RDA for protein has not changed, older people may require more protein due to wear and tear on tissue and overall loss of protein during periods of disease. Sedentary individuals, too, do not utilize dietary protein as much as do active individuals, thus potentially creating a need for added protein in the diet for these sedentary groups, according to Alfin-Slater.

Electrolytes — Among changes and additions in electrolytes, the RDA for sodium is now 3 grams of "elemental sodium," or about 7.5 grams of sodium chloride.

Most Americans consume from 6 to 18 grams daily of sodium chloride. Excessive sodium intake has been linked to hypertension and lowering intake of sodium helps reduce blood pressure of hypertensive individuals. The amount recommended in the new RDAs all but eliminates use of table salt at the table or in cooking. Alfin-Slater thinks, however, that those who depend on iodized salt for iodine intake should not eliminate its use without consulting a physician.

Potassium, as with sodium, permits a wide range of intakes. The RDA calls for 1,875 mg to 5,625 mg (Americans generally consume 2 to 6 grams potassium). Use of diuretics may increase daily potassium requirements. Potassium is found in many fruits and vegetables.

Calorie Requirements — Recognizing the reduction in calorie needs of adults as they grow older, the RDAs are based on a table of mean heights and weights and recommended energy intake. Age also is a factor in this area in particular.

The energy allowances for young adults are for men and women doing light work.



A guide to eating

Enter blind horse led by a boy...

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH — Equus by Peter Shaffer, will be presented by S.E.T. at the British Embassy Open Stage on April 7, 8, 9 and 10. Curtain is at 8 p.m. sharp.

The play is directed by David Frontin; the Assistant Director is Ross Harris.

Equus was first presented by the National Theatre of Great Britain in July of 1973. Since then it has proved a powerful and moving piece, produced in many countries.

The setting is Rokesby Psychiatric Hospital in Southern England. The time is the present.

The story revolves around a 17-year-old emotionally disturbed boy, who blinds 6 horses one night in a stable. This part, Alan,

being played in the S.E.T. Jeddah production by Stephen May.

Dysart, a psychiatrist and the main character in the play tries to find out why the boy did this terrible deed; then perhaps he can help him. Dysart is being played by Lee Graham.

As he interviews the boy he gets him to act out what happened so that the audience sees the crime.

In the play, six actors actually play the horses. These actors wear beautiful masks designed especially for this production by John Scott, of Jeddah.

The stage at the British Embassy has been changed which should provide a few surprises for regular theater-goers here.

Tickets are available at the British Embassy from 6 to 8 p.m. Mar. 31, April 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6.

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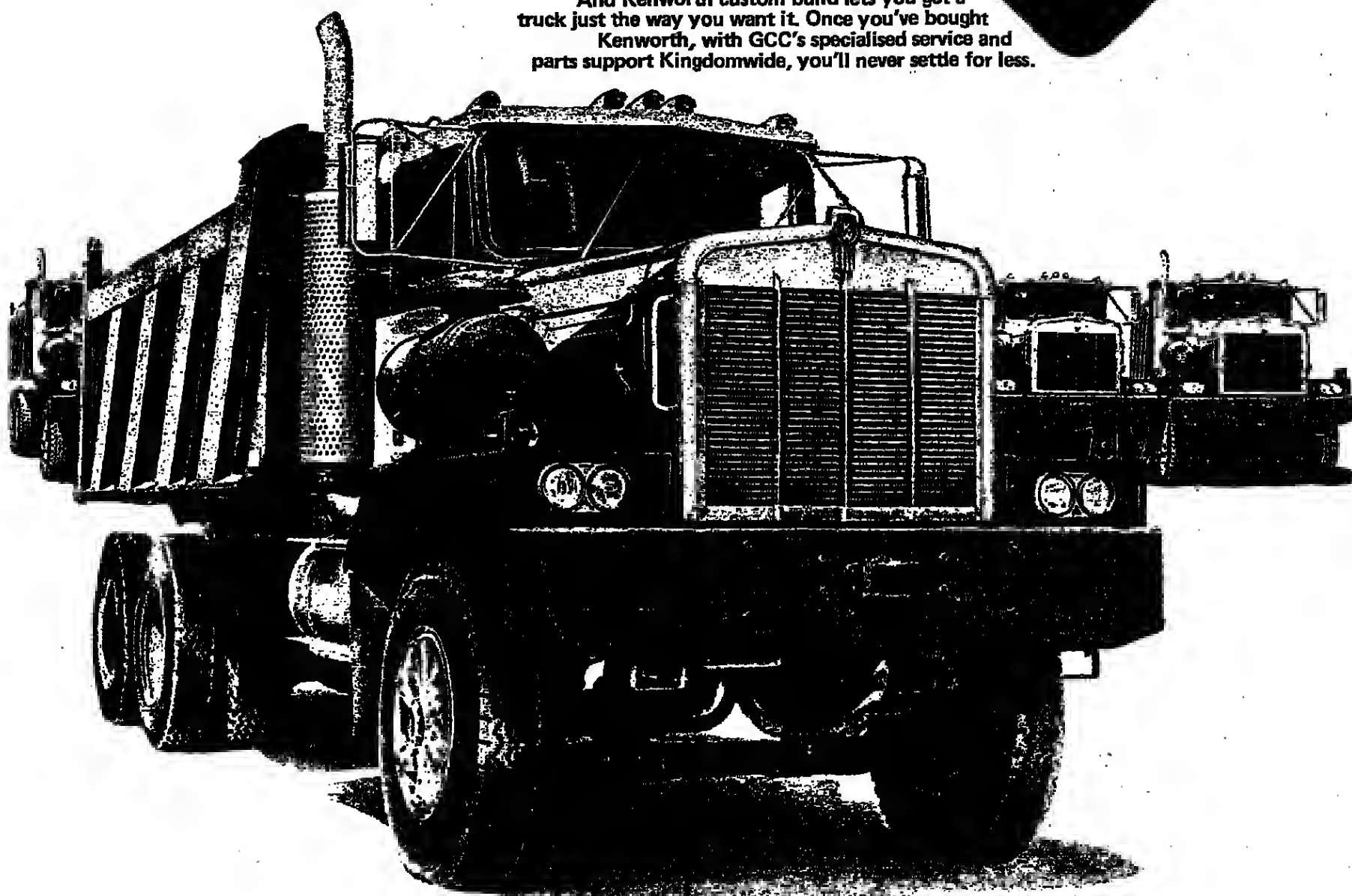
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Vienna, a crumbling city

A look at the origins of modern man

By Robert Kirch
The Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — It is hard to grapple with an existing social order, but harder still to have to posit one that does not exist: Hugo von Hofmannsthal, "Nach der Freunde". True modernism — the modernism of the 20th Century, not "out of the past" or even "against the past" but "in independence of

Fin-de-siècle Vienna:
Politics and Culture
By Carl E. Schorske
Knopf, \$ 15.95

the past" — is seen in this remarkable work as emerging in turn-of-the-century Vienna, the city where style and ambience seemed the essence of the 19th Century. Not a facade, exactly, but the womb wherein the new European culture, art, intellect, politics were

formed. Vienna, Prof. Schorske says, "with its acutely felt tremors of social and political disintegration, proved one of the most fertile breeding grounds of our century's ahistorical culture."

We see the shift in these essays from social realism to introspection, from rational man to psychological man to mass man, an embattled bourgeois liberalism crushed between the aristocracy and the masses before it had any chance at real power. Austria does become in these pages, as the poet Friedrich Hebbel wrote, "the little world in which the big one holds its rhyms." Rebellion against the paternal, in the Freudian Oedipal sense, is a theme. Yet that rebellion took many forms and led to many different results.

The case studies (brilliantly written, in contrast to the pompous and wordy introduction, which is best read last) include all the better-known intellectual innovators: Freud, Gustav Klimt, Oscar Kokoschka and Arnold Schoenberg. There are others less readily

recognized as protomoderns: Arthur Schnitzler, the physician-playwright; Hugo von Hofmannsthal, lyric poet and dramatist; Camillo Sino and Otto Wagner, city planners, architects, rival theoreticians; Karl Lueger and Georg von Schonerer, who launched anti-Semitic programs and mass movements, forerunners of Fascist politics; Theodor Herzl, leader of modern Zionism; and the novelist Adalbert Stifter.

The image of a garden in transformation to a wilderness is drawn in two final essays. From the settled or at least apparent utilities, the world seemed to go into what Schoenberg described (in the title of the second movement of his unfinished symphony, "Death Dance of Principles") thusly: "The darkness yields — But the sun is without strength," a fragmentation of beliefs and traditions, of faith and old values that Schorske sees as following Nietzsche.

(The book originated in an attempt to design a course in modern European history; Vienna, studied in interdisciplinary ways,

became a pattern of recognizable forces in the development of modernism.)

Vienna at the turn of the century was only part of emerging modernism but the particular circumstances of its bourgeois liberalism — culture centered on rational man, "whose scientific domination of nature and whose moral control of himself were expected to create the good society" — became a model of the 20th-Century centrifuge of experience. Austrian liberals never really held power, never more than a social base among the middle-class Germans and the Jews. They came into government "almost by default," under the aegis of that auster father figure, Franz Josef, and in alliance with some aristocrats, peasants, urban workers, artisans, small holders and Slavic nationalist groups rose to challenge them. With some popular and demagogic leaders such as Karl Lueger (who became mayor of Vienna, although the emperor himself had tried to prevent him taking office but could not prevail against a second popular vote), the new nationalistic

embraced by concepts anymore." Hofmannsthal sought a means to channel rather than repress the irrational force of feeling, sought forms and rituals. Hitler, despite his anomie and provincialism, was very much the essence of a Lueger believer. His virulent anti-Semitism was rooted there.

The Ringstrasse, built on the site of the razed fortress walls of Vienna, became the symbol of Austrian liberalism as well as an object of attack, a term with pejorative overtones like Victorianism in England. Schorske's essay on the Ringstrasse and the birth of modern urbanism is one of the best in the book, ranging from politics to public art and artisanship, views of craft and history, the relationships of myth and music to architecture and folk art, the work of Sittie trying to meld the past and present, of Otto Wagner turning to the future of suburbs and trains, trying to roll back history to face a future of modern technology and utility. In such essays are the enhancements of this work, the equal shocks of surprise and recognition. The issues are exactly those of architecture and public planning today.

Schorske is at his best when dealing with figures who symbolize the issues and paths, he sketches a convincing Herzl, child of his turbulent times, a dreamer who went as easily from the epic vision of leading his fellow Jews to mass conversion at St. Stephen's Cathedral to becoming a blend of messiah and king of the Jews, leading masses back to the homeland. His lessons began with the Dreyfus scandal in Paris but his decision for Zion came with the rise of an anti-Semitism that threatened the very place of Jews in Austrian society. It must be pointed out, however, that the account here is a personal one; there was a separate development of Zionism before Herzl and after him. He became a legend, and knew it. In London, listening from a podium to ghetto Jews, he wrote:

"I saw and listened as my legend grew. The people are sentimental; the masses do not see clearly. A light haze is beginning to well up around me which will perhaps be the cloud on which I shall go forward. It is perhaps the most interesting thing that I record in these diaries... I stoutly resolved to be even more worthy of their trust and love."

Zionism, however, was always more than Herzl. It represented a cross section of political thought from right to left, from orthodox to secular, allowed and tolerated these differences, was never authoritarian. It is a mistake to extrapolate from Herzl's actions to the entire movement or to fall into the notion that there is something akin to the fanatic authoritarianism of other nationalisms.

The essay on Klimt is another excellent one, extravagantly illustrated in color and black and white. Indeed, the book itself is a masterpiece of design, from gold art nouveau dust jacket to print and format. The essay on Freud, perhaps because of that worthy's overexposure, is a bit tired and Oedipal though reasonably fresh in its view of Freud's liberal conflicts, his compulsion to the antiquity of Rome and its salvation, his weaving of an ahistorical theory of man and society that could explain if not improve a "Political world spun out of orbit and control."

Beyond Klimt, the psychologist explorer of inner drives and remote pasts, of dreams and fantasies in art, are other transformations, and such a painter as Kokoschka explicitly saw in his abstract canvases a feeling of alienation. Vienna, in any case, was no longer in the explosion of the old order; the war had changed all that. Schoenberg, who did in music what others had done in the visual arts, wrote eloquently:

"A terrible amount of order is in the whole. And just as much disorder. That is, if one asks for sense. All is simultaneously order and disorder." In musical terms that echo cosmic questions, he concludes: "One tone? Or is there no tone? Or are there many tones? Is it infinity or nothing? Multiplicity was easier to grasp before than unity is now. It is overwhelming."

The wildness could be contained, not as a

The nature of our epoch is multiplicity and indeterminacy. It can only rest on 'das Gleitende': the moving, the slipping, the sliding.

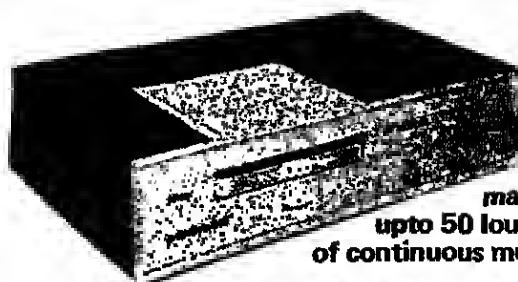
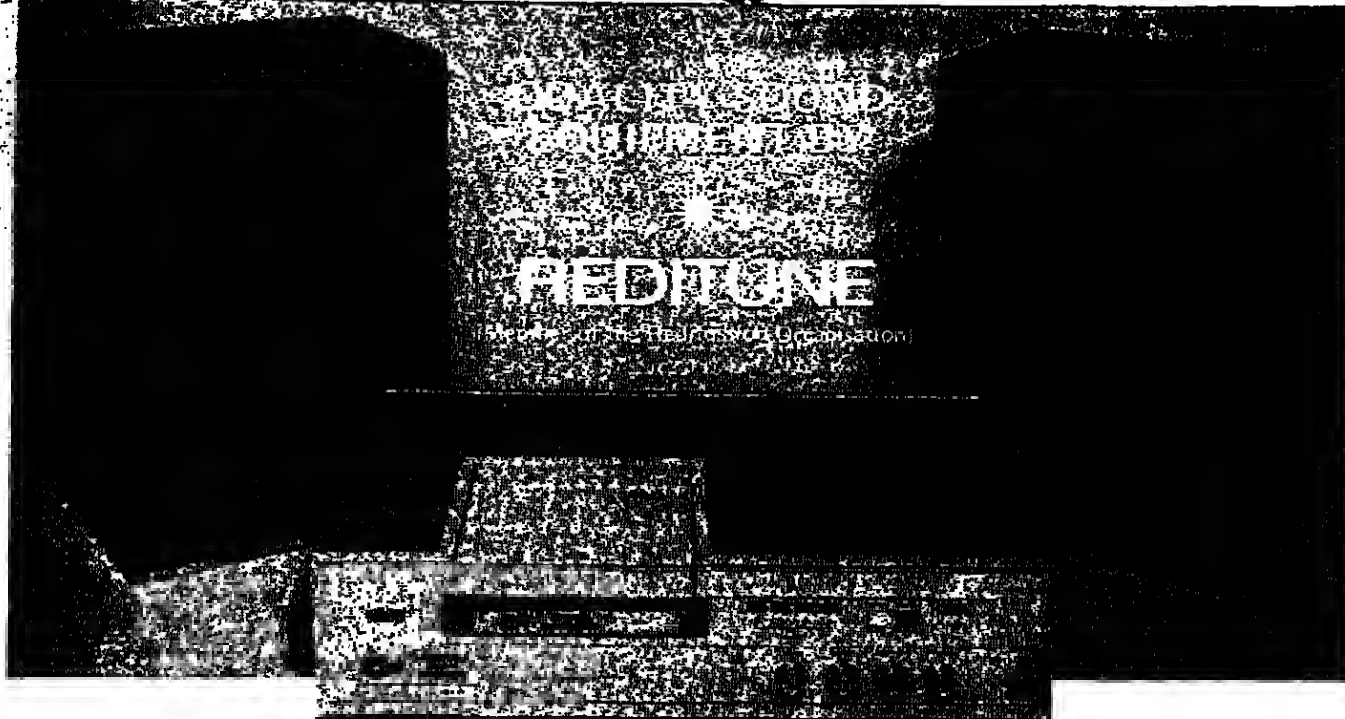
garden overrun perhaps but as analogue and metaphor for pluralism and psychological man. There are questions here but there is light enough for new answers. Most of all there is illumination of the path that, through Vienna and other places, brought us where we are now.

Vienna, with its acutely felt tremors of social and political disintegration, proved one of the most fertile breeding grounds of our century's ahistorical culture.

parties had a double target and scapegoat in the liberals and Jews.

Hofmannsthal, who came from the aesthetic tradition, sought in instinct some organizing principle. Yet the fragmentation seemed beyond remedy. "The nature of our epoch," he wrote, "is multiplicity and indeterminacy." It can only rest on das Gleitende, the moving, the slipping, the sliding. One of Hofmannsthal's characters says: "Everything fell into parts, the parts again into more parts and nothing allowed itself to be

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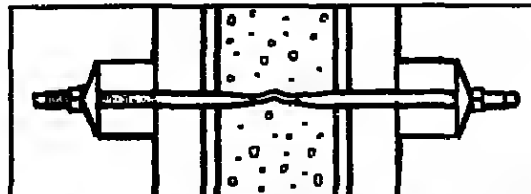
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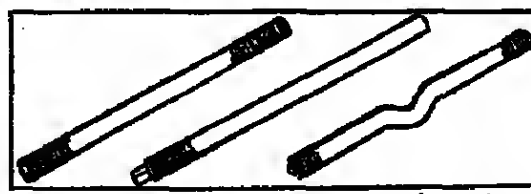
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Both sides demand clarification

Iran, U.S. at odds on custody terms

TEHRAN, April 4 (AP) — Tehran Radio declared Friday that U.S. President Jimmy Carter apparently has turned down the Revolutionary Council's request to clarify his response to Iran's demands for transferring the American hostages to government control.

"It seems that the U.S. president has rejected the Iranian Revolutionary Council's call to clarify his stand candidly," the broadcast said in reporting Washington's position on the issue.

The foreign ministry said the Carter administration seems to be engaging in a war of nerves, and a spokesman for the militants who seized the 50 hostages in the U.S. embassy in Tehran 153 days ago said, "We didn't expect the great Satan of America to do anything but make empty threats."

Meanwhile, about 200 demonstrators gathered outside the U.S. embassy declaring support for the militants and protesting what they said was U.S. pressure to release the hostages before the issue is decided by Iran's new parliament.

The Revolutionary Council delayed taking control of the hostages Thursday and demanded clarification from Washington of the U.S. response to Iran's conditions.

In response, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said, "The American position has been clearly stated. We hope the authorities in Iran will carefully consider that position and the full implications of the situation before making a final decision."

Asked if this indicated Carter might order new sanctions against Iran, Powell said it "generally was not productive to fix deadlines." But he conceded that his reference to the "clearly stated" U.S. position included

past official pronouncements on possible retaliation.

An American television network, ABC, reported that Bani-Sadr asked Carter in a telex to say he understood it was the Iranian parliament's "right" to decide the fate of the hostages. The report said Carter responded in a telex that he understood that was the Iranian position but made no mention of parliament's "right."

Publicly, however, Carter said Bani-Sadr's speech was a positive development and he would defer further sanctions for the time being.

Bani-Sadr said Wednesday that as far as he was concerned the United States had met the conditions for the council to take control of the hostages. But the council, in a four-hour meeting Thursday, refused to agree with him.

Foreign Minister Sadeq Ghotbzadeh told reporters in Tehran that what Carter said "wasn't precisely what the council had in mind." He said the ruling body "must have some more information on the precise position of the United States concerning the statements which were made by Mr. Bani-Sadr."

He said the Iranian government will make up its mind on the hostage transfer immediately after Carter clarifies the U.S. position. Asked when he expects Carter's answer, he said, "I hope within a couple of days." He also said he thought the council probably will make its final decision Sunday.

One of the militants holding the hostages in the U.S. embassy said before the council met, "We have not received any requests. We don't want to deliver the spy nest. When they make a decision, we will act."

Another militant said, "We will accept any

decision that the Revolutionary Council makes."

The militants demand that the former Shah and his fortune be returned to Iran as the price of the hostages' freedom. But Ayatollah Khomeini, the leader of the Iranian revolutionary regime, says the captives' fate will be decided by the 270-member Majlis, or parliament, which is expected to meet in June.

The militants took over the embassy while

the Shah was undergoing cancer treatment in New York. The monarch flew to Panama Dec. 15 and to Egypt March 23, a day before extradition papers were filed by Iran's representatives in Panama City. His cancerous spleen was removed in a Cairo hospital last week, but the disease has spread to his liver and he is to undergo chemotherapy.

Muslim students from Egyptian universities protested at Asyut University south of Cairo Thursday against the Shah's presence.

Remembering Tehran hostages

America 'tying ribbons'

WASHINGTON, April 4 (R) — The hit song *Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round The Old Oak Tree* made yellow ribbons a symbol of steadfast devotion, so when 50 U.S. diplomats were taken hostage in Tehran Americans went out and tied ribbons round trees.

That was 153 days ago, the yellow ribbons have become somewhat bedraggled in winter snows and spring rains, but relatives and officials say all the evidence is that Americans have shown no sign of forgetting about the hostages.

"The outpouring of public feeling was absolutely phenomenal," says Mrs. Louisa Kennedy, whose husband Morehead, is a prisoner in the Tehran embassy.

"People from all over the country sent three million cards at Christmas. Bumper stickers on cars say 'Free the Hostages.' There have been countless religious ceremonies. Children wear buttons with the names of the hostages on them."

"It seems everybody has been straining to find some way in which they could show their support," she said.

She and other wives have set up a group called Families Liaison Action Group (FLAG) to help keep up morale.

Mrs. Bonnie Graves, another Washington member of FLAG, says she knows from her own experience that the wives of hostages have their up days and their down days. She and Mrs. Kennedy have both spent time on the phone cheering up depressed wives.

Mrs. Kennedy says, "I think it's worse for people outside the Washington area. There are more of us here. We can talk to each other."

A communications center at the State Department, which coordinates official action and keeps in touch with the families, maintains a 24-hour task force monitoring the situation. A State Department spokesman says one duty of the task force has been to receive telephone calls and letters from the general public.

He says these letters express support for the hostages, give advice and mete out either praise or criticism for the government. "But generally we get more calls that are critical than supportive," he said. "People are letting off a little steam."

Despite this preponderance of critical letters, the American public remained solidly behind the efforts of President Jimmy Carter to win the release of the hostages, at least until a week ago.

The president refused to go out campaigning for his own candidacy in the primary elections saying that he was too busy working on the hostage crisis. Democrats voted massively for him all the same.

But a week ago Democrats in New York state and Connecticut voted instead for his rival Senator Edward Kennedy and one of the reasons they gave for doing so was they were losing confidence in his handling of Iran and foreign affairs in general.

In news broadcasts, Iran became such a subject of consuming interest that two networks introduced a special late night newscast to give the public the latest news on the hostages.

The Iran newscasts made late night television news viewing so popular that one of the networks, ABC, has made the program a permanent fixture.

And all newscasts have adopted a new way of signing off which is likely to remain until the hostages are released.

"That is the news," they say, "on this the 153rd day of captivity for the American hostages in Iran."

One aspect of the crisis that has abated is overt and violent hostility towards Iranians in the United States.



CYCLING TOURIST: Manno Wilkkinen, a retired carpenter from Finland, makes friends with a young cyclist in Melbourne, Australia. Wilkkinen is touring the world by bicycle. He started eight years ago and has already traveled 75,000 kilometers and visited 60 countries. Wilkkinen is 69.

Gold dealers off for Easter

Dollar up in holiday trading

LONDON, April 4 (AP) — Most of the world's foreign exchanges were closed for Christian Good Friday at the start of a long Eastern holiday weekend, but in those places that were open, the dollar added to its recent gains.

Bullion markets were closed. In Tokyo, the dollar closed in quiet trading at 258.15 yen, up from Thursday's finish of 257.575 and 249.775 a week ago.

Dealers said that trading was quiet before the Easter weekend in overseas markets, with spot transactions totalling only \$513 million compared to totals of more than \$1 billion in several sessions this week.

The dollar opened at 258.00 yen and fluctuated narrowly between 257.90 yen and 258.30 throughout the session. The Bank of Japan was believed to have sold an estimated \$50 million in the market to prevent the yen from falling further.

The unattributed report was in Japan's business newspaper, *Nihon Keizai*. If true, the measure would follow a swap agreement reached with the Swiss central bank and moves to attract foreign depositors, neither of which had much effect this week as the yen continued to fall.

Engineer hesitates, house goes to pieces

LOS ANGELES, April 4 (R) — The engineer looked, and looked again and realized it was really there — a house crossing the railway track.

He braked, hit his locomotive hit the house and scattered parts of it almost one km along the line Thursday, police said.

The two-story house was being moved on a flatbed truck by road and was crossing the

On Tuesday the dollar jumped more than 4.00 yen, the highest since Oct. 21, 1977 finish at 253.65 yen after opening at 250 yen. At one point the dollar soared as high as 258.80 yen to break through the "psychological barrier" of 258.00 yen. Immediately after the foreign exchange closed, the Bank of Japan announced the signing of the swap agreement with the Swiss.

But Wednesday the U.S. currency advanced further to close at 256.50 yen after opening at 256.00 yen. The central bank estimated \$300 million to \$400 million.

On Thursday, despite the Bank of Japan pumping in about \$100 million to prop up the yen, the dollar closed at 257.575 yen after opening at 256.50 yen.

In Europe, the only finance centers open for business were in Italy and France.

In Milan, the dollar was set at 908.5 lire, up from 904.05 late Thursday. In Paris, the dollar was worth 4.535 French francs, up from 4.52.

The dollars put its highest levels in two years or more as foreign investors put the money into U.S. dollar-holdings because the record-high 20 per cent interest rates offer.

track when the crossing barriers came down.

Police quoted the driver as saying, "I can't round a curve and there was a building across the tracks. I put on the brakes, but there was nothing else I could do."

A man sitting on top of the moving house to make sure it cleared power lines jumped to the ground when he saw the train coming and sprained his ankle.



Japanese shipbuilders work on the bulbous bow of a supertanker.



RELUCTANT BULL: A pair of British television actors rehearse a scene from the program *Minder*. The plot calls for Denis Waterman, right, and George Cole, who play unlucky thieves in the show, to make off with a farmer's prize bull. They don't succeed.

A nation of 'workaholics'

Industrious Japanese advised to take a break

TOKYO, April 4 (AP) — Stung by foreign complaints that Japan is a nation of work addicts, the Japanese government is prodding workers to take advantage of their vacation time.

According to the latest labor ministry figures, salaried workers in Japan use about 60 per cent of their paid leave every year. In small companies with fewer than 100 employees, workers spend half their vacation time at their desks or operating their machines.

Workers in the highly competitive electronic industry may be tops at giving up vacations, says the 520,000-member Federation of Electric Workers' Unions of Japan. A federation survey found that workers use only 8.6 of their average of 28.3 days of entitled paid leave, about 30 per cent.

The government is pushing for greater use of vacation time and a five-day work week to improve labor and living conditions, to save energy and to create more jobs. It faces resistance, however, from companies and workers who are happy with the way things are.

While 40 per cent of those surveyed by the federation said they were unhappy about missing their time off, 37 per cent said they had no complaints. Main reasons given for staying on the job were that vacations cause hardships for fellow workers and leave them with piled-up work when they return, the federation said.

Kazuyoshi Koshiro, professor of labor economics at Yokohama National University, said the inconveniencing of fellow workers is a problem. He also cited Japan's lifetime employment system as a factor.

Japanese are inveterate travelers, but the cost of tourism throughout the annual paid leave — usually 20 days plus national holidays — is too high for many. Many workers, moreover, would rather work than sit home in cramped living quarters.

Koshiro said some companies have discouraged leave-taking by reducing semi-annual bonuses, which total up to six months of annual pay, for workers who take their allotted vacations. Only recently has the government taken steps to prevent this practice, he said.

Bright young office workers on the "elite course" to executive positions are under pressure to earn promotions by camping out behind their desks while less motivated employees are at the beach or on the ski slopes.

Shunning vacations is also due to loyalty. "Most Japanese workers feel their own fate is tied to that of the company. They think working hard to help the company succeed is the path to their own success," Koshiro said.

To Westerners, such behavior is just plain odd, a European Economic Community report leaked last year said Japan had piled up huge trade surpluses because

"it is a nation of workaholics who live in rabbit hutches."

That comment started a debate in the editorial and letter columns of newspapers, and is still quoted frequently.

The government launched a campaign last year to persuade workers to take vacations and companies to close down during summer holidays.

It changed the labor laws to abolish nine-hour work days for police, firemen and some other service jobs.

Work weeks of 5½ or six days are the rule in many industries. But the labor ministry has applied "administrative guidance" toward its goal of a universal five-day work week by 1985. Now, only 24 per cent of Japanese workers have two full days off each week.

The Sumitomo Bank estimated last year that a five-day work week could create 2.2 million new jobs — for a nation which has only 1.1 million unemployed. The ministry of international trade and industry has estimated that the five-day week would save 800,000 kiloliters of oil a year, or 0.3 per cent of Japan's consumption.

It might also soothe some of Japan's trading partners. When the United States and Japan were at odds over car exports, one Japanese official said: "We may face criticism that Japan exports cars by working 13 months a year."

The Japanese in 1978 worked an average 41.1 hours a week, compared to 37.2 hours in the United States and 36.2 hours in West Germany.

They seem to thrive on this regimen. Men here are among the world's longest lived and there is no indication that their long hours cause physical illness or mental strain.

Koshiro said young people, particularly women, now entering the work force are more concerned with leading full lives away from their jobs and are less willing to skip vacations or work long overtime hours.

"But such issues as the five-day work week and ample paid leave did not really arise in Japan until the early 1970's, and it probably will be another decade before Japan falls in line with current U.S. and European labor practices," Koshiro said.

He estimated that workers in the large automobile, steel, and electronics industries are on the job between 50 and 150 hours more a year than their Western counterparts, and admitted there is some truth to the charges that the Japanese work too much.

"But I think the 40-hour week should be the normal labor pattern. Current trends in Europe to sharply reduce working hours and giving special leave for such things as wives' pregnancies are a waste of human resources," Koshiro said. "They are going too far."